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In Sweden

A GUIDE TO  
TIGER SHOOTING









10 feet 11½ inches.



1. Sardar Krishna Rao Bapu Sahib Jadhav.  
2. Mast Khan.

3. Anand Rao Jagtap.  
4. Muzaffar Khan.



To

THE MEMORY

OF

MY MATERNAL GRANDFATHER

SARDAR SIR KRISHNA RAO BAPU SAHIB JADHO,

K.C.I.E., MADAR-UL MOHAM

AND

MAST KHAN,

MUZAFFAR KHAN,

ANAND RAO JAGTAP,

OFFICERS OF MY SHIKAR DEPARTMENT.





## FOREWORD.

---

I have given in this book the results of my thirty years' experience of tiger shooting for the benefit of my friends and those aspiring to become successful sportsmen.

In undertaking this compilation my object has been twofold :—

- (1) that it may serve as a guide to Shikar Departments, wherever such institutions exist ; and
- (2) that it may add, if possible, to the information and amusement of the lovers of sport.

It goes without saying that success in tiger shooting depends entirely upon a ready comprehension and prompt solution of the difficulties involved in each particular case as well as upon the due fulfilment of the duties assigned to those entrusted with the working out of the details of a shoot. Personally I feel that the success of a shoot is fully assured when it is managed according to the general principles laid down here.

There is an oriental proverb that sport is the business of those who have no serious work to do. This, if true, is so, only in a very limited sense. My own conviction is that the time spent in this class of sport is far from being thrown away, even in the case of people upon whom Providence has laid special responsibilities : for occasional relaxation is good for the health of body and mind, not to speak of a few moments of pleasure and enjoyment that such relaxation affords. It is but right, however, that one should take to this pursuit in a spirit of moderation, for excess of anything is harmful. "Work while you work and play while you play" is a well-known maxim.

It would perhaps be a truism to remark that only those persons can derive any benefit from sport who are painstaking and of active habits. It certainly can have no charm for the lovers of ease and pleasure.

I am grateful to the following for the trouble they have taken in rendering me help to complete this task :—

1. Col. K. N. Haksar, C.I.I.
2. Major W. G. Nadkarni, L.M.&S.
3. Captain Sultan Hasan Khan, and
4. Munshi Syed Mohammad Ali.

In conclusion my acknowledgments are also due to Mr. H. C. Hicks from whose valuable work "Forty years among the wild animals of India" I have derived help in the compilation of this book.

SHEOPUR,  
28th April 1920. }

MADHAV RAO SCINDIA.

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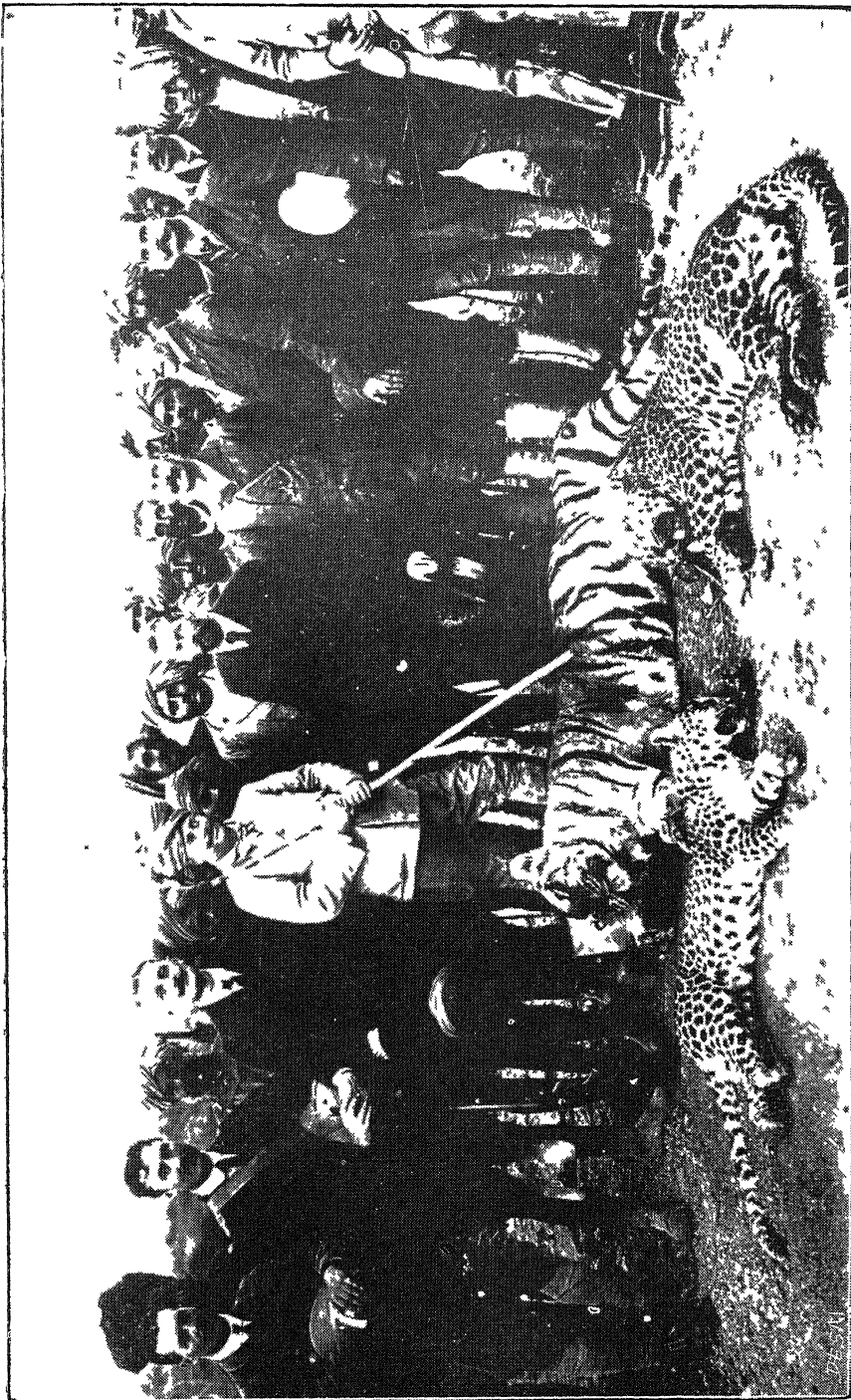
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H. R. H. The Prince of Wales—Singapore (1905).



## INTRODUCTION.

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The lion and the tiger in this part of the country, are usually confounded together, as both are spoken of in the vernacular as **sher**.

The latter tribe, however, is often distinguished by means of distinctive names based upon difference in shades of colour, *e. g.*, **sunera** and **lohiya**. The former is the bright gold variety while the latter is of darker hue which verges on the red. The **lohiya** is often more ferocious. The lion has a mane which the tiger has not and is sandal-coloured.

It is, however, necessary to understand clearly that the word **sher** implies nothing but a tiger and that Sher Babar is the right word for the lion. As already noted, there is vast difference between the two species and they differ also in colour, and the growth of hair.

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# A GUIDE TO TIGER SHOOTING.

## CHAPTER I.

### Important Directions for Young Sportsmen.

1. The following rifles are recommended for big game shooting, *i. e.*, for shooting Tiger, Leopard, Bear and Sanbhar :—

( i ) 500 Express.

( ii ) Paradox.

( iii ) 400, 450 Express.

2. It is best for a beginner to practise well at the target first, before taking to shooting at game. Even after such practice he should commence by shooting game at close range—by which is meant a distance at which the ears, eyes and face of the quarry are clearly discernible. It would be a mistake on the part of such a one to shoot at long distances (*i. e.*, from 400 to 500 yds.) from the very start.

3. Novices usually get much excited at the sight of game, the result being that their limbs begin to shake in a state of excitement. Care should, therefore, be taken to act with great composure and to use the rifle with a firm and steady hand.

4. The following being vital parts of the animal's body, a shot to be effective must be directed at one of them :—

( i ) the neck,

( ii ) the heart,

( iii ) the chest,

( iv ) the forehead, *i. e.*, portion between the eyes, and

( v ) the portion which is an inch below the top of the shoulder.

Where the bullet is lodged in any of the parts mentioned above, it may be inferred that the shot came from a good marksman.

NOTE.—The parts which can be hit most easily are the region of the heart and the shoulder.

5. When a sportsman sees a tiger in the jungle coming towards himself, he should allow the animal to come as near himself as possible instead of shooting at it from a distance.

6. When it is known that the tiger is in the beat, no shots should be fired at other animals until the tiger has been disposed of. In a tiger shoot, as a general rule, nothing will come out in the beat except tiger, but sometimes it has been experienced that Bear, Sanbhar, Four-horned Deer and Panther come out first. In such cases it is best to wait for the tiger and to shoot other animals after the tiger has been dealt with. If other game is seen just after the tiger there is no harm in having a go at it.

7. If a sportsman happen to come up with a tiger unexpectedly he should not get excited and fire in a hurry. He should control himself, for, as the saying goes, 'the fruit of patience is sweet' and he should see that the animal is not disturbed. Such meetings generally occur at day-break or in the evening or at night but are of rare happening during the day.

When the tiger is thus met during the day-time and the sportsman is bent on having his sport, he should take a rapid view of the jungle and avoid following the animal. He should judge the direction in which the tiger is moving and by a detour proceed to the spot by which the quarry must pass, care being taken to see that the spot so chosen affords good protection from the attack of the animal. When the quarry passes it may be fired at with success. Another method would be to follow the animal at a distance and shoot him when a good opportunity occurs.

It should be borne in mind that this animal is very cunning and turns back on the least disturbance to spring upon the sportsman with great fury. The best defence against such an attack is to stand upright with the gun to the shoulder ready to shoot and to step behind slowly and quietly to a side making way for the animal. If the animal does not go his way but comes straight on towards the sportsman, he should be shot at with a correct and steady aim.

Sometimes this animal conceals himself by lying low in such a manner that he cannot be seen and when a man unwittingly or through carelessness approaches him, the animal suddenly springs

upon him with a roar. Many a shrewd sportsman has been thus deceived. In such an emergency the best means of saving one's self is to throw a hat, a turban or a piece of cloth whichever one might happen to have at the time, at the animal's face. The animal would generally attack the article thus thrown at him first and the sportsman afterwards. This diversion will afford a few seconds' opportunity to the sportsman to move aside and immediately take shelter behind a stone, tree or a bush from where he might shoot the tiger, provided he is sure of his mark ; otherwise it would be better for him to take advantage of the shelter and let the animal pass.

Experience teaches that in such circumstances a sportsman should not fire at a tiger at close quarters as long as the animal's eyes keep meeting his own eyes, for when a shot is fired in such circumstances, the tiger is most likely to bound straight-forward. The tiger should, therefore, be shot at as soon as he turns his eyes to the right or the left. The advantage of this precaution is that the animal will make a rush in the direction in which he may be looking at the time.

8. The following methods are adopted in tiger shooting :—

- ( i ) The **baoli** (the bait system).
- ( ii ) The **hanka** (the beating system).
- ( iii ) The **gara** (system of shooting on the carcase of the bait killed).
- ( iv ) The **gara** system of shooting on the carcase of the bait at night.
- ( v ) The Agot (system of shooting when games return from their walks).
- ( vi ) The system of shooting on the water (when games come to drink).

*Method (i)*—In this system, where a tiger is known to be living in a place a buffalo or goat is tied at such spot as is laid down in Chapter IV. When he gets accustomed to killing the bait at the appointed time and when a report of this is made then the sportsman goes out to shoot and takes his seat on the **mala** or sits behind the **tattar** put up near the place where the bait is tied. It then remains at the option



of the sportsman to shoot the tiger when the latter approaches the bait or to wait till he has killed it and begun to eat. It also depends upon the pleasure of the sportsman to fix the time of the **kill** either in the morning or in the afternoon. Four in the afternoon would, however, be the best time.

*Method (ii)*—This system requires elaborate arrangements being made beforehand. That is, the **jungle** is first set right and **machans** put up as explained elsewhere in this book. Buffaloes are tied at one or two places, as may be considered necessary,—generally at the entrance to the **kho** (a shaded valley) or on the path which the tiger generally makes use of. On receipt of the news of the **kill** the sportsman takes his seat on the **mala** or **machan** towards which the tiger is driven by means of a line of beaters. The shoot takes place when the tiger passes by.

*Method (iii)*—In this system the arrangements are so made that the place for the sportsman to shoot from is fixed with an eye to safety and ease of shooting. The bait should always be tied at an easy distance so as not to make the sportsman's task too difficult.

The way, leading to this place, which the sportsman would take should be different from the tiger's path and not so close to the latter that he could be disturbed.

The sportsman arrives at this place early in the morning, say, just at dawn and shoots the tiger while he is on the kill.

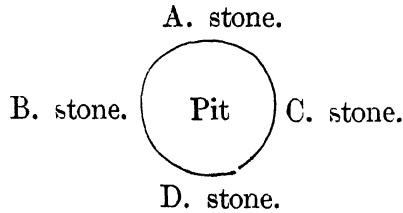
Generally a tiger remains on the kill up to 6 or 7 A. M.

In the language of this country, shooting in this way is called **gare-ki-bandook**.

*Method (iv)*—In this system the bait is taken to the place of tying (**khoonta**) at 4 P. M. when the sportsman also follows the bait and while the **shikari** is tying it the sportsman proceeds towards the **machan** or pit to take his position.

How **machans** are put up will be found in Chapter III, while the pit is usually made at a reasonable distance from the **khoonta**, so that the animal could be seen with ease in the day and particularly in the night.

The pit is covered with a **karhao** (a large iron pan) or a **tattar** (net-work of bamboos) which is made to rest on four stones placed equidistant on the edge of the pit, so as to leave sufficient space for the sportsman to see through and shoot. These artificial covers should be strong enough to resist all possible attempts of the tiger to break or throw them away. As a matter of further precaution, the **tattar** should be covered with brambles to make it safe from the attack of the animal. The formation of the pit may be readily understood from the following diagram :—



One may have to sit the whole night on the **machan** or in the pit, the shoot taking place when the tiger settles down on the kill. Some people choose to erect four strong **tattis** (screens made of bamboo, grass and leaves) on the ground like a walled square, over which a strong **tattar** covered with thorny bush is placed to serve as a roofing. The sportsman takes his seat inside the enclosure and shoots the tiger from there.

NOTE.—It would facilitate operations if arrangements could be made for electric light on such occasions. The electric lamp may be fixed at the site of the **kill** in such a manner as to let its light fall on the tiger and the buffalo when the switch is put on. The sportsman must keep the switch and the battery with himself. The approach of the tiger in the dark may be guessed from the movements of the buffalo and his presence detected by the disturbance caused by his attack. The tiger generally tries first to fell his victim with a blow from his mighty paw on its hind quarter and then having seized it by the neck holds it down. The presence of the tiger having been ascertained from the disturbance caused by his approach, one should, with a few moments' calculation, wait till the tiger has pounced upon the buffalo. The switch should then be put on and the tiger shot in clear light.

After a shot has been fired, it is risky to leave the pit or the **machan** for purposes of any search during the night.

*Method (v)*—In this system it is necessary to ascertain beforehand the paths or the ways the tiger generally makes use of. This done a place is selected for the sportsman to shoot from.

Care has also to be taken in selecting a place which affords protection for the sportsman. The sportsman goes to take his seat in the latter part of the night, so as to be in his place some hours before the tiger returns from his usual night walk.

These animals generally return after 4 in the morning.

Where the tiger lives in an Andh (professional word for a cave) it is usual to select a place at the entrance to the cave and to do the shooting when the tiger emerges from his den. Advantage may be taken of the use of electric light on such occasions also.

This method, locally known by the name of Agot, may be adopted in shooting the following games as well :—

- (1) Tiger (2) Leopard (3) Bear (4) Deer (5) Sanbhar  
(6) Cheetal (Spotted Deer), etc.

The general principle on which this system is based is to ascertain the paths frequented by the game and to lie in wait for it at a place affording sufficient protection to the sportsman.

*Method (vi)*—In this system the spring or the stream and the time at which the tiger drinks are ascertained and then a place is selected carefully for the sportsman to take his position to shoot the animal when he comes to water.

This method is adopted in shooting tiger, leopard and bear only and may not be resorted to for the purpose of shooting other animals. The use of this method in the case of animals other than the tiger, the leopard and the bear, is looked upon as a serious breach of professional etiquette.

9. In a tiger shoot one should always provide one's self with a piece of white cloth which could be thrown at the tiger's face in case of a sudden attack by him. The trick will divert the attention of the tiger for a moment as he will go first for the cloth and thus enable the sportsman to save himself.

10. The sportsman should proceed to the **mala** or the **machan** with loaded rifle but as soon as he prepares to climb up the tree or ascend the ladder, the rifle should be unloaded, and immediately re-loaded when the ascent has been completed. When the sportsman has taken his seat on the **mala**, the rifle should not be handled or its parts opened without necessity.

11. It would be a great mistake on the part of sportsmen to take, as some people do, newspapers, &c., with them to the **mala** and other places where they should have to lie in wait for the game.

12. As one feels too thirsty in a jungle, sportsmen should always keep themselves provided with a **chhagal**.

13. Care has been taken in this book to appoint signals for various purposes with a view to facilitating the working of the **shikar** arrangements. A thorough study of these signals and their employment on the occasion of a shoot is recommended.

14. Tiger shooting should, as far as possible, be avoided during seasons of monsoonic disturbance, *i. e.*, when gales and rains have set in. The use of **machan** in such seasons becomes rather dangerous, for a gale may uproot the tree on which it is put up. Besides, there is ever a chance of the **shikar** day being spoiled by a cloudy and rainy atmosphere throwing its darkness all round.

15. When a wounded tiger is to be tracked on an elephant, it is right that the advance should be made cautiously in the direction the tiger has gone, taking care that the elephant is not taken too close to the tiger. Otherwise the danger is that the elephant might be mauled and spoiled for good for tiger sport. It is advisable to put buffaloes or goats in front of the elephant as by this means the wounded tiger will be located with ease and without risk.

16. When a wounded tiger is located by means of buffaloes or stops, the elephant should be made to proceed cautiously with the closest possible scrutiny on every side and of every thing, especially the roots and trunks of trees. The place of refuge of the tiger having been fixed upon as centre, a search for him should be commenced in the form of a circle,—the circle narrowing inwards after a round has been completed with all possible care, till the tiger is discovered. This form of search is technically known in **Hindustani** as **paras lagana**.

17. When occasion arises to shoot from an elephant, the sportsman should stand up in the **howdah** to shoot without letting the barrel rest on the edge of it.

18. Sometimes the sunlight falling on stray stones, leaves, grass, stumps and branches of trees makes them look like tiger to persons whose eyes are not sufficiently trained to distinguish similar objects from one another. As many a people has been deceived in this manner, it is of the utmost importance that the would-be sportsman should cultivate the habit of discernment and sharpen his visual perception by training his eye.

19. As far as possible, the trail of a wounded tiger should not be followed on foot. Where, however, such a course is unavoidable it will be safer invariably to lead buffaloes or goats in front and to follow in their wake.

20. Where the search for a wounded tiger in a **kho** occasions delay and the day is coming to an end, care should be taken to leave the **kho** before darkness sets in, without making any further effort till next day.

Deep and narrow valleys get darkened too soon. One may not, therefore, rely too much on one's watch. It may be 5 or 6 p. m. by the watch, but pitch darkness may be prevailing at the time in a deep **kho**. Time should, therefore, be regulated by the darkening shadows of the trees and as soon as the failing light under the trees begins to make the objects under them appear faded or less visible, the **kho** should be left.

21. *The method of tracking*—One item of the preliminary arrangements made for a tiger shoot intended to be carried out in accordance with the directions given in this book, is to examine, before the commencement of the baiting operations, the nature of the ground round about the tiger's abode, with the object of discovering plots of ground, capable of retaining the footprints of the tiger. The object of such examination is that the fact of the presence of the tiger in the **kho** or his absence from there, may be promptly established on the day of the **shikar**. If he has left the **kho** his footprints can be traced on the plots discovered beforehand and his track followed to the place where he has gone.

The ground capable of retaining the footprints of the tiger must be very soft or sandy. Where, therefore, no such ground is discovered, artificial plots are prepared by spreading sand or soft earth over the ground at suitable places to facilitate the track being followed with certainty. Such plots are, however, prepared at a distance from the site of the kill and the place of retreat of the tiger.

When artificial plots are prepared care should be taken not to rouse the tiger's suspicion as sometimes it has been found that an experienced tiger generally avoids going over them.

22. Care should be taken to distinguish fresh footprints of the tiger from the old ones. Impressions which are most clear and free from coverings of leaves, grass or straw may be taken to be fresh footprints, while faint impressions covered with grass and leaves are indicative of the footprints being old.

Sometimes it has been experienced that people ( specially wild tribes ) with a view to deceive new sportsman make tiger's paws with their hands. These are such good imitations that it is difficult to believe that they were so made.

Also they kill buffaloes with knives in such a manner that it is also difficult to make out whether the buffalo has been killed by tiger or a human being. It is said in the jungli population that this is purely to save the tiger from being shot as he provides food for them ( wild tribes ). It is customary amongst the wild tribes that when they see vultures falling at a certain spot on the body of some animal whether killed by tiger or natural death, they always go and bring it home for food.

23. The tracking of a wounded tiger when he gets out of sight is technically known in Hindustani as **bata lagana**. The following hints may serve to illustrate the process:—

The direction in which a wounded tiger has gone is indicated by the blood-marks left behind by him. Where the series of such marks comes to an end, it is a sign that bleeding has stopped owing to the wound having been closed up with fat or that the place of refuge of the tiger has been reached.

Nothing should be left unexamined for discovering traces of blood which may as well be found on stray leaves, branches and straw as on clear ground.

As the sure footedness of the tiger is considerably affected by its wound and its gait becomes uncertain, his body frequently rubs against the trunks of trees, bushes, leaves and rocks, etc., on which traces of hair are generally found, thus indicating the direction he had taken.

Crushed shrubbery also serves to indicate the direction of the tiger's retreat where the shrubbery in question was of such nature as would not be broken through in normal condition by an unwounded animal.

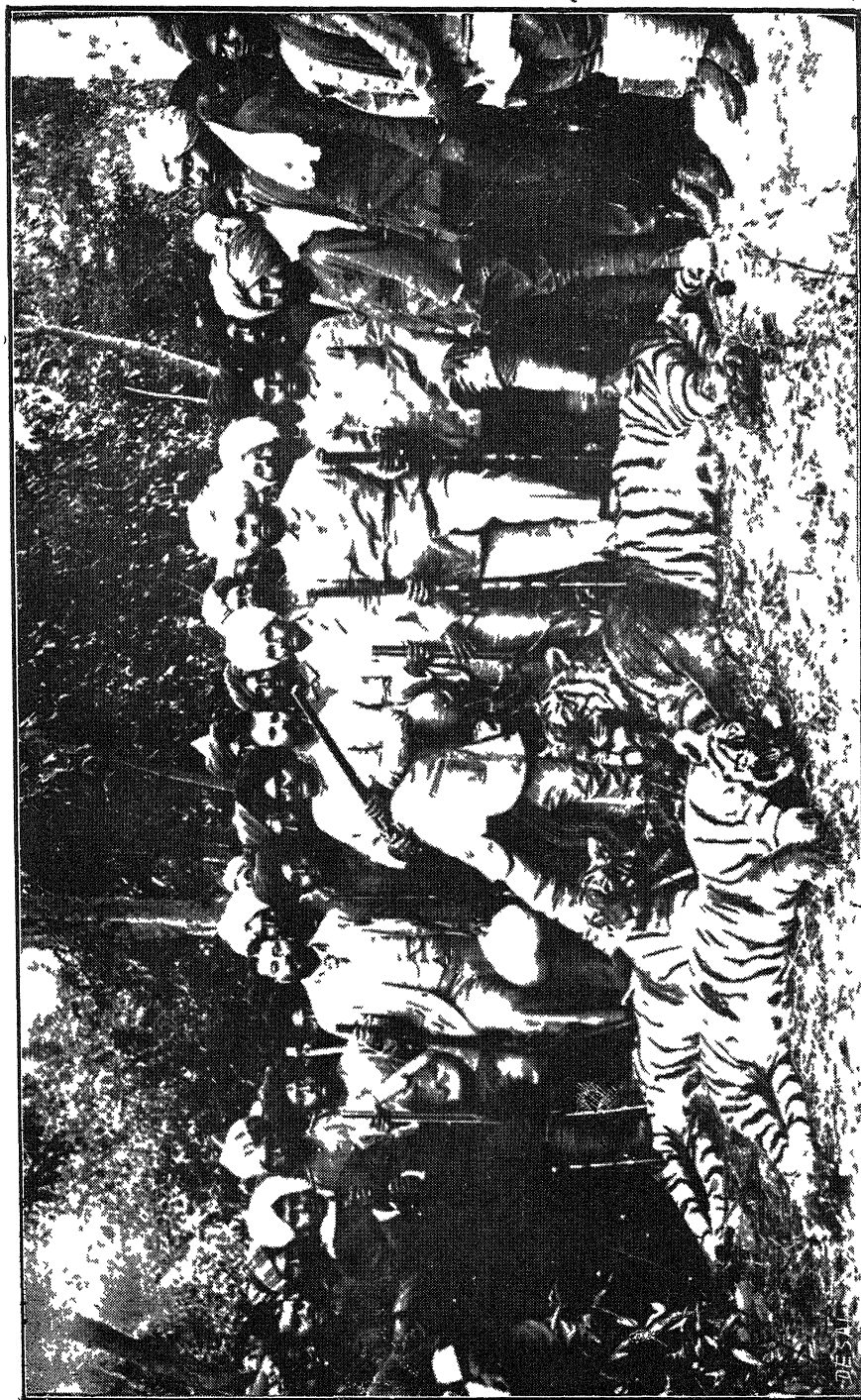
24. As soon as the sportsman has taken his seat on the **mala** he should make a careful survey of the jungle, round about him and thus ascertain the likely places on all sides from which the tiger may come in view.

On these places a sharp look-out should be kept so that the tiger may not get away unobserved.

25. Care should be taken to gather information on the following points from the **shikari** in charge of the shoot before the sportsman proceeds to take his seat on the **mala** : —

- ( 1 ) the direction of the beat;
- ( 2 ) the signal fixed upon to indicate the commencement of the beating ;
- ( 3 ) the nature of the beat, *i.e.*, whether it would be a 'silent' or a noisy one ;
- ( 4 ) the locality of the **machans**; and
- ( 5 ) the probable number of tigers and the presence of other animals within the beat.

26. All places in the immediate vicinity of the **mala**, should be closely examined before ascending the **mala**, for it may happen that the tiger be found in the neighbourhood or at the very foot of the **mala**, lying concealed from view, with every chance of giving a slip to the sportsmen after they have taken their seats ; but this happens very rarely.



H. H. The Maharaja Kapurthala Singapore (1897).





27. Local **shikaris** have a firm belief in omens. As their experience in the line seems to have lent countenance to such beliefs, it will not, perhaps, be out of place to enumerate them here for the information of the reader. To act up to them or to disregard them would entirely depend on whether one has faith in such things or not. They are as follows :—

- ( 1 ) Fine or plentiful game is expected where a sportsman, as soon as he leaves his house for **shikar**, sees a street sweeper engaged in sweeping or a **bhishti** ( a water-carrier ) with his **mashak** full of water.
  - ( 2 ) The warbling of a partridge is looked upon as auspicious if heard on the right from morn till noon and on the left thereafter.
  - ( 3 ) It is considered unlucky to speak aloud the word **khargosh** ( vernacular for hare ) when one starts on a hunting expedition. If the mention of the animal is unavoidable, it may be called by other names such as the **lambkanna** ( the long-eared ).
  - ( 4 ) It is also considered inauspicious to meet a one-eyed person at the start.
  - ( 5 ) It is believed to be a good insurance against accidents to drive an axe into a **neem** tree before the commencement of the beat to be taken out when the beat is over.
  - ( 6 ) Where a cat happens to cross the path of a sportsman just on the move, he should take care to walk back a little distance and restart after the evil effects of the cat's inopportune appearance have been dispelled by a few moments' patient waiting.
  - ( 7 ) Likewise, a sneeze in front is considered inauspicious while one behind one's back is taken to be a good augury.
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## CHAPTER II.

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### Preliminary Arrangements for Tiger Shooting.

1. When an order is given to the Officer in charge of the Shikar Department to make arrangements for tiger shooting, the first thing for him to do is to inform the Superintendent of the Department of the places where the **shikar** is to take place and to direct him to send **shikaris** to those places.

If **shikaris** are not available in sufficient number, the District Officers should be asked to make the necessary arrangements at the appointed places through Zemindars to be named in the requisition. For this purpose, a register should be maintained, by the Department, of all Zemindars and such other village people as are known to be conversant with the methods in which a **shikar** is managed and care should be taken to keep that register complete and up-to-date by constant revision and insertion of additional names, when necessary.

2. One Non-commissioned and one Junior commissioned Officer from the three Arms should be sent along with each **shikari**. A requisition for the services of such officers should be made by the Shikar Department to the Military Department without specification of names and without any recommendation, whether official or private, to send any particular persons. The Military Department should select clever and intelligent officers for this purpose, who are also fond of sport. The Military Department must derive benefit from such deputations in the long run, as an active participation on the part of its officers in **shikar** operations will give them practical training in appreciating the situation for purposes of scouting.

The deputation of such officers will not be permanent but only temporary, *i. e.*, for so many days only as may be considered necessary to retain them with the **shikaris**. It shall be the duty of the officers in question to keep company with the **shikaris** and to learn the tricks of

the trade, to enable themselves to manage **shikar** arrangements alone, should **shikaris** be not available at any time.

The allowances and other expenses of such officers during the course of their deputation would be paid by the **shikar** Department.

3. When the various beats have been fixed upon and the deputation of **shikaris** made, the Superintendent of the **shikarkhana** Department should visit each beat in company of the **shikari** concerned, to whom the necessary directions should be given on the spot and whose work should every now and then be reviewed by the Superintendent to satisfy himself that the directions given are being faithfully carried out. The directions should embrace the following points :—

- ( 1 ) the places at which and the manner in which clearings of the jungle shall be made.

NOTE :—The following principles should be observed in clearing the jungle:—

- (a) Where the forest is densely wooded, a pathway enabling an elephant to pass with facility should be cleared but care should be taken that the scene is not laid wholly bare by a total annihilation of jungle, for in that case the place will never be visited by the tiger.
- (b) The jungle should be divided into several blocks and each block demarcated as at Singhpur. For instance, if **dang** (jungle) is half a mile in length a demarcation line, 10 ft. wide, should be laid at the end of every 200 yards. The object of this arrangement is to facilitate the espying of a tiger enabling the beaters to proceed with rapidity and ease, as they will have known from the look out men on the flanks, the direction taken by the tiger.
- (c) It would be the primary function of the person in charge of the operations to view from the **mala** the surrounding jungle, so as to determine the possible approaches of the tiger.

Having determined these he should proceed to thin out the jungle to enable the sportsman to see the tiger coming and to get a clear shot from the **mala**. At the same time he should take care that the jungle is not so stripped as to excite the suspicion of the tiger and prevent him from passing by the **mala**.

This has occurred several times at Singhpur, where in consequence of the space in front of the **mala** having been laid bare the tiger passed under the culvert and slipped away. (This is the same culvert that leads to the **mala**.)

(d) The selection of suitable trees on which **machans** may be put up should be made before action is taken to clear the forest.

(e) The precautions mentioned in (c) in respect of **malas** should be observed in the case of **machans** as well.

- ( 2 ) Whether or not there are caves and caverns in the jungle. If there are any, they should all be closed up provided they are so deep that the tiger cannot be driven out of them by any device without endangering the lives of the beaters.
- ( 3 ) Whether or not, there are any other places in the neighbourhood of the **shikar** area to which the tiger can resort for pleasure or from necessity. Information on the point is of great help in discovering the whereabouts of the tiger when he is found to have left the area before the commencement of the beating operations or to have slipped away in the course of the beat. Every **shikari** should, therefore, keep himself in possession of the necessary information on this head.
- ( 4 ) Whether or not, water is available near the place where the tiger lies up. If not, arrangements for his water supply should be made by placing large earthen vessels filled with water in a shaded place where he can rest after quenching his thirst.
- ( 5 ) When it is ordered to make arrangements for a tiger shoot in such a jungle where there is no place for the tiger to live, a place should be chosen and an artificial place built for the tiger to stop in. To do this arrangements will have to be made, by means of bushes, branches, leaves, etc., sufficient cover being provided where the tiger can comfortably lie down and rest.

It must be remembered that an artificial place should be so made that the tiger would not suspect it to be a trap.

- ( 6 ) Whether or not the proper moment has arrived for tying the bait. It may be noted here that the **shikari** should commence tying the bait when all the arrangements mentioned above have been completed and not before.

4. While a **shikari** is engaged in making arrangements for a tiger shoot, it is incumbent on him to find out what other game than the tiger can be found in the jungle (*i. e.*, not too far but at a reasonable distance all round the beat ).

Having ascertained this he should report at once, beforehand, in the following manner :—

(i) What game is available ( name ) ?

(ii) What method he considers best for a shoot, such as :—

- (1) If on agot, then at what time.
- (2) If on water, then at what time.
- (3) If on **andh**, then at what time.
- (4) If on **baoli**, then at what time, or
- (5) If by beating, then at what time.

NOTE.—Other game means panther, bear, sanbhar, fish, deer, chink, nil, chital, partridges, etc.

5. In the matter of deciding where to tie the bait, and put up **machans**, the **shikari** should not consult the villagers, but, on the contrary, he should act on his own judgment and experience.

6. Sometimes it is possible to come across a beat which is generally known by one common name but is really divided up, by intervening rocks bereft of vegetation, into separate compartments and each of these compartment bears its own name, as it has forest growth in the interior and as such provides shelter for the tiger. A very good example of such contiguous divided ravines forming part of one block of jungle is **Goras Deh**, where these compartments are called, **Bag Deh**, **Sanbhar Deh** and **Gobar Deh**. In a place like this it is desirable to make arrangements in the following manner.

The bait should be tied in the block which is frequently visited by the tiger where **machans** should also be put up. In such a beat the chances are that the tiger may stop either in the block where he has killed or move to the next one on his own, having been disturbed or having quarreled (where there are more than one tiger), long before the beat or after having driven. To meet such a situation it is necessary to make preparations beforehand by putting up **machans** in the other blocks as well as by having watchmen posted, so that it may be easy for the sportsmen to take move on to them having received report from the watchmen of the tiger's whereabouts.

7. It is the duty of the **shikari** to tell the person concerned beforehand the number of **malas** put up and the number of people they will accommodate. Also how many guns can be posted on the sides of the valley.

8. The **shikari** should also get himself acquainted beforehand with all the ways and paths by which the tiger is likely to get out of the beat before passing by the **machan**, as at such places it will be necessary to post elephants with or without guns with a view either to shooting the tiger or preventing him from getting away.

All such places should be shown to the **mahavats** as soon as they arrive in their camp, quietly (without causing any disturbance to the tiger) so that the day, the beat takes place they (**mahavats**) should be in a position to take their elephants either with or without guns to the places shown beforehand, without the aid of any guide. It must be known that as a rule **mahavats** do not possess much intelligence and therefore it is necessary thus to put them through a rehearsal.

9. Where a **shikari** is a stranger to the jungle in which the shoot has been ordered to be arranged or the jungle is one in which a shoot has not taken place on any previous occasion. First the **shikari** should go to the jungle and on his arrival there, his preliminary action should be to make enquiries from the villagers as to the places where village cattle are generally killed by the tiger and what are the **khos** and ravines in that jungle, where tigers are generally to be found.

Having obtained the information from the villagers he should visit every **kho** and ravine in the jungle with the object of making a minute and careful reconnaissance of them with the object of finding out the following :—

- ( 1 ) Whether there are tigers in that jungle or not.
- ( 2 ) Whether there is water in the **kho** or ravine.
- ( 3 ) Whether there are places suitable for a tiger to live in.

10. The **shikari** should particularly attend to the directions given in paragraph 21 of Chapter I in the matter of tracking a tiger by means of its foot-prints. A **badmash** and suspicious tiger may, however, avoid walking over the artificial places specially prepared by making soft ground or spreading sand, by going over them with a jump. In such cases his foot-prints may be searched for on bye-paths, cart roads and such other places where there is soft ground or sand, at a distance from the **kho** but if even at a distance pug marks are not to be found on account of hard ground, then it will be advisable to make artificial places as described before at a distance from the **kho** so that he may forget and pass over them without any suspicion. Artificial places should be carefully made so as to obviate suspicion on the part of the tiger.

11. Care must be taken to distinguish fresh foot-prints from old ones as pointed out in Paragraph 22 of CHAPTER I.

12. Any person wishing to make a shooting trip (for tiger or any other game) should carefully consider the following points before he undertakes it :—

- ( 1 ) ascertain the localities where fine game is available;
- ( 2 ) obtain from the authorities permission to shoot, where such permission is necessary, and comply with any other conditions;
- ( 3 ) fix the time which can be spared for this purpose;
- ( 4 ) consider the question from a financial point of view and satisfy himself that he can bear the expenses of the expedition and after that



- ( 5 ) take a **shikari** in his service and send him or take him along with himself to the proposed scene of operations. I would strongly recommend that the sportsman should himself proceed to the spot with the **shikari** and take part in the preliminary arrangements, for such participation will, by itself, be most interesting and useful to him.

NOTE.—Paragraph 6 of Chapter IX contains other hints which may usefully be followed by sportsmen.

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H. E. Lord Minto, Viceroy of India. (1908).



## CHAPTER III.

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### **Mala, Machan, Ladder, etc.**

1. The sites for **malas** and **machans** should be selected at a distance from the kill as well as from the place where the tiger lives. Non-observance of this principle may result in accidents to those who have to take their seats on them. The risks are two :—

( 1 ) The tiger may see the sportsmen when approaching the **malas** and thus leave the jungle unnoticed, or

( 2 ) may go for the sportsmen.

In choosing such sites it should be remembered that those for whom accommodation is to be provided are not all fine shots or sportsmen and may include ladies and children.

2. The sites in question should lie in the ways or paths which are frequently used by the tiger.

3. The ground in the rear of the **mala** should not be rendered quite open, for the absence of jungle, ravines or other natural features will certainly not induce the tiger to go that way.

4. The **mala** should in no case be less than twenty feet in height.

5. The choice of sites for **machans** should be regulated by a careful observation of the condition of the forest. The villagers in their simplicity are in the habit of suggesting sites selected on previous occasions, but it would be a mistake to follow their advice without a careful scrutiny of the position, inasmuch as changes are ever taking place in the condition of a forest and every year is likely to present a somewhat new aspect. For instance, water may be found at one place during one year and at another next year. Similarly,

the general condition of forest growth during one year may differ from that during the next or great clearings may, at any time, have been effected in the forest or heavy rains may have destroyed the living place of the tiger. Moreover, some animals are possessed of great intelligence and by their previous experience or by instinct they are apprehensive of danger at certain places to such an extent that if they are forcibly driven in their direction during a beat, they stop at once when they approach those places and turn off in other directions. The **shikari** will, therefore, do better to select the sites for himself in the light of his own experience than to be guided by the recommendations of the village people.

6. If it be unavoidable to select for **machan** the same site as had been selected on any previous occasion, a little change in the exact locality of the **machan** will still be most desirable, that is, the **machan** should be erected a little in front or back of the exact spot where the **machan** was erected on the previous occasion. The change is necessary to deceive experienced animals.

7. Where the **mala** is erected on the ground, the **tattars** used in forming the enclosure and in roofing it for protection from the sun should be strong enough to resist the attacks of the tiger.

8. As far as possible, the way leading to the **mala** or **machan** should be other than that by which the bait has to be taken to the place where it is to be tied. But if this be not possible, then one way leading to both the places will do.

9. Where there is only one way leading to both places, the **shikari** should precede the party, talking all the way, as directed in Paragraph 21, Chapter IV, and go back when he has seated the persons concerned on the **mala**.

10. **machans** should be put up at places from where sportsmen on different **machans** can see one another, so that if the shot of one party misses the tiger, another party, observant of the situation, may secure him at once.

11. The **malas** should always be protected from the sun.

12. It is always preferable to shoot tiger from the cliff of a hill (**karara**) provided it is a safe position than to shoot from a **machan**, but when this is not possible **machan** should be put up on trees which are the least liable to be shaken by wind. As a further precaution they should be made firm by being placed on strong branches of trees.

13. In order to avoid inconvenience to the sportsman in climbing up the ladder the rungs of the ladder should not be fixed too far apart so as to provide easy steps.

14. The ladder should be a strong one and the cross-bars should not be less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length.

15. The jungle behind the **mala** or **machan** should be so carefully thinned out that it will enable the sportsman to get in a shot or two behind him at the tiger that may have passed wounded.

16. In case a **mala** of brick and mortar is desirable, it will be best to build the structure according to the Plan given in Appendix 3 of this book. The plan in question is less costly and affords sufficient accommodation. The directions given in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 must, however, hold good as regards the selection of site for such a **mala**. It may further be noted that the staircase should lead straight up to the top of the **mala**, that is to say, it should not be a circular one and that the walls on both sides of it should be so high that a person ascending it would not be seen.

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## CHAPTER IV.

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### Baits or 'Kills' (Baoli).

1. The bait should be tied in an open space so that the tiger may see it from a distance and it will be better if the bait is tied on the paths or ways frequently used by the tiger.

2. If the forest is dense and no suitable open ground is available, a little clearing of jungle should be effected at the selected spot. A foot-path leading to such spot may also be cleared for the purpose of taking down the bait, but it may be dispensed with, if there be no time to do so.

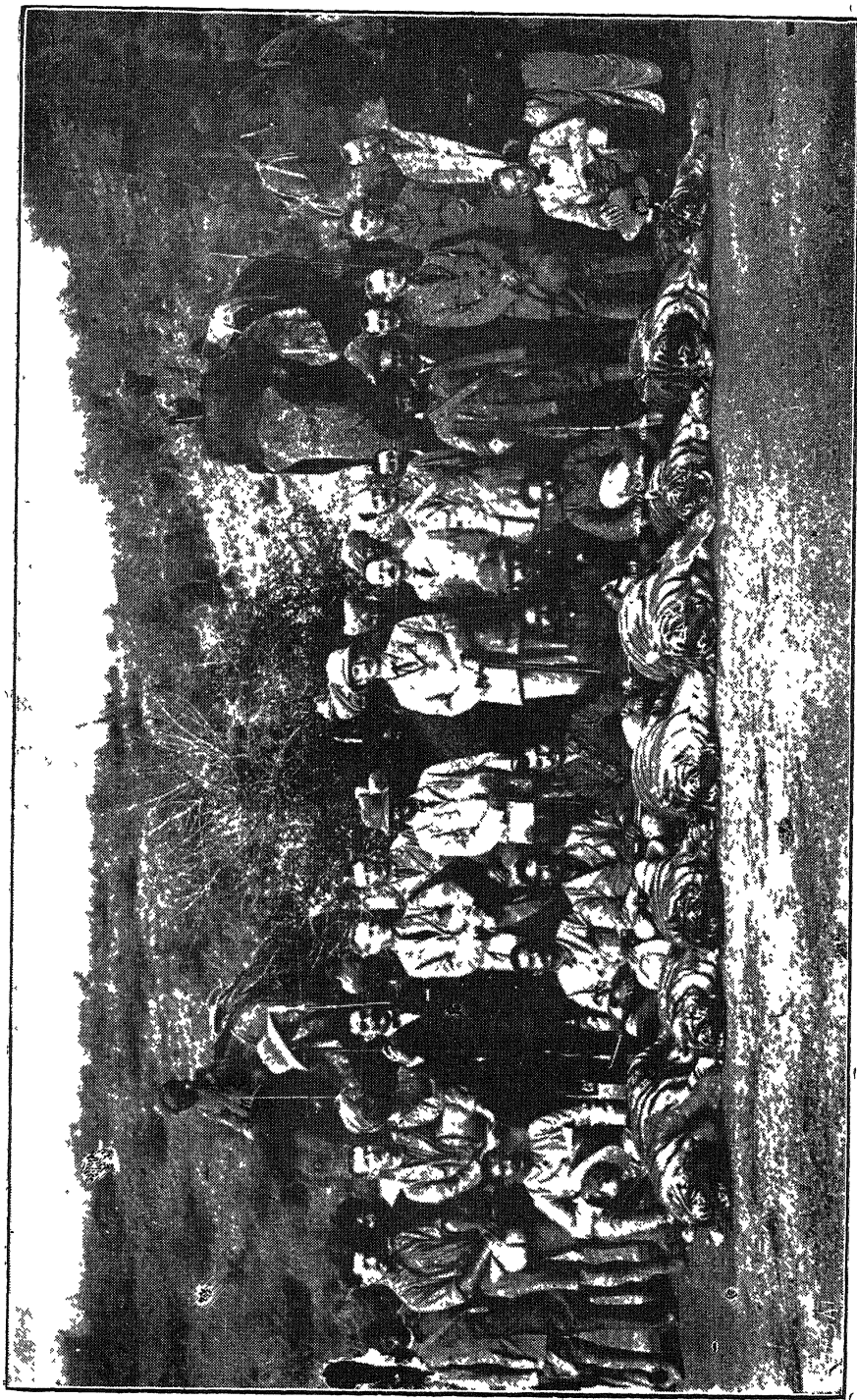
3. A bell should be tied round the neck of the bait so that when it moves its head during the night or is disturbed by mosquitoes, &c., the tiger may hear the sound of the bell and take a hint from it, of the bait's presence there.

NOTE.—The bell should be tied round the neck of the bait only where it is customary in the villages to do so when they send their cattle out for grazing in the jungle.

4. The site for the kill should be selected at a spot near which there is water or at a little distance. The closer the water, the better.

5. The spot, selected as the site for the kill, should be situated near a thick shady jungle so that the tiger might rest there after he has killed the bait.

6. Some of the experienced tigers get to know quite well that if they were to kill a tied animal (bait) a beat for them on the following day is essential which would mean the end of their lives. Such tigers, therefore, do not even think of killing the bait though they may pass by it, and see the bait standing, and if they do so, *i.e.*, kill the bait, they clear off out of the jungle during the darkness of the night, as soon as they have had a little to eat.



His Excellency Lord Hardinge, Viceroy and Governor-General, India—Iora (1914).





With a view to pin down such a suspicious beast in the beat it is considered best to make a search for the carcass of such animals as bullock, buffalo, **sambhar**, **neel**, etc., in the parts of the jungle where the tiger has killed on his own, and to bring the remains of the animal to put down at the place where arrangements had been made for tying the live bait. If this is not found, then the remains of other animals, died of natural death or killed by a wild animal, should be searched for, and used instead.

NOTE.—Such carcass can be found out in other parts of the jungle than the beat; its whereabouts can be known either by the presence of vultures, kites, etc., flying over it, or by making enquiries from the villagers.

7. Indian spiknard (**balchhar**) may be used to invite a tiger to visit any particular part of the jungle which is not usually visited by him and in which his presence may be desired.

The skin of a jackal or a big piece of cloth rounded up into the shape of a ball should be well soaked in a solution of spiknard and dragged along the path or way which is likely used by the tiger, from the entrance of the valley to the entrance of that beat where it is desired to have a shoot. The skin or the cloth ball if dried while being dragged from one valley to the other will not answer the purpose. Therefore, care should be taken to keep it well soaked so as to keep the continuity of the smell: otherwise the object will be lost. In the desired place, bait should be tied also, so that on arrival the monster would find his supper table ready for him.

The attraction of this medicine is that it affords a smell like that of a tigress in heat and therefore it is natural for the tiger to follow it.

8. A male buffalo should be used as bait.

9. The buff should not be less than 15 months old as the danger is that if big it may put up a fight with the tiger.

10. The buffalo chosen as bait should be a healthy one as tigers abstain from feeding upon decrepit and diseased animals.

NOTE.—Some sportsmen, in order to save their pockets, buy up decrepit and diseased animals with the result that the tiger fails to reward them with the expected 'kill.' This is a mistake and should be avoided.

11. The bait should be tied by the foreleg (above the fetlock) and never by the horns or neck.

12. The bait should invariably be tied on a level piece of ground and not on a precipitous place (*karara*), or on the side of a valley or the edge of a pit, lest the buffalo in its struggle to break the rope should drop over to the full extent of the rope and suffocate itself to death, being unable to recover its feet.

13. The rope with which the bait is tied should be strong enough to prevent the buffalo breaking it but at the same time it should not be so strong that the tiger may fail to break it and be thus prevented from dragging the bait away from the place of tying.

NOTE.—If it is intended to shoot the tiger while he is on the kill the rope should be en-twined with a steel wire.

14. The animal used as bait should be heavy enough to oblige the tiger to drag it and not so light that he could lift it clean off the ground and carry it in his mouth.

15. Care should be taken to prevent the bait from concealing itself in a cover, and to this end it is best that such cover in the vicinity is removed.

16. It is best to tie the bait to the root of a tree provided the branches and leaves do not overhang it, otherwise the chances are that the bait might not be seen by the tiger from a distance. **shikaris** often cut down trees to which they decide to tie the bait and leave the stump one or two feet above the ground to serve as a peg.

17. If a real peg is used, it should be four feet in height. This should be sunk at least three feet into the ground and well rammed round with stones in order to make it firm and strong.

18. In sandy soil, instead of a peg, a strong bar should be strongly and firmly burried in a hole with a rope tied to it and made so firm that the tiger should fail to carry the bait away.

19. The length of the rope to tie the bait should not be more than 20 inches, otherwise the danger is that by being too long it may

cause the buffalo to be entangled. If the rope is shorter than 20 inches the tiger may fail to break it.

20. It is best to avoid any accidents. The place for tying a bait should be fixed some distance away from the **mala** or **machans**. Also, there should be separate paths made leading to the place of tying the bait and the **mala** or **machan** as the case may be.

21. As a general rule when taking the bait to its tying place, a little noise should be made particularly when the tying place is close to the **mala** or **machan**.

NOTE.—(i) The advantage of taking bait with noise is that the tiger will always understand that his dinner is coming and will withdraw himself from the tying place to some distance, and also will not be alarmed.

NOTE.—(ii) There are two systems of tying bait; one is called "The noisy system" and the other "The silent one."

In the first the men taking the bait down to the site of tying, talk loudly but do not shout; and return in the same manner after having tied the bait. While in the second system the bait is taken down to the tying place quite quietly and return is also made without making any noise.

NOTE.—(iii) The Silent system is best only when the **mala** or **machan** is at a distance from the tying place of bait and the approach of the sportsman to the **mala** is not likely to be heard by the tiger, which may alarm him and lead to his disappearance from the jungle.

22. When a shoot is intended to take place in 2 or 3 months time the bait should be tied fortnightly, at the commencement, so that the tiger may get to know the tying place. The period should be reduced gradually to alternate day so that the actual date of shooting fits in.

The baiting should be so arranged as to prevent the overfeeding of the tiger, for in that case he will not kill the bait at the appointed time.

NOTE.—The bait should be given daily, if there are more than one tiger, and one buffalo is not found sufficient for all of them.

23. To see whether the bait is killed or not it is not wise for the **shikari** to go very early in the morning. 7 A. M. in the winter and 6 A. M. in the summer are suitable hours.

24. When the **shikari** sends information of the kill he should also state :—

- (1) When the **baoli** was killed.
- (2) Whether the tiger was seen by him.
- (3) Whether the animal killed has been taken away from the tying place or left at the site of tying.

25. The remains of the bait, if left by the tiger at the place of tying, should not be removed from there.

26. If the remains of a previous kill are found at the site of the kill on the day fixed for tying bait, they should be removed after the day's bait has been tied.

NOTE.—In the case of double baits, that is to say, where a bait is used daily, the remains of the previous kill, if any, should be removed daily after the fresh bait has been tied.

27. If the expected kill does not take place during the night, the bait should be removed next day at 9 o'clock in the morning for feeding and giving it exercise. It should be tied again at three in the afternoon, care being taken that the bait is not left all day at the tying place.

28. The screen (**tatti**) put up by the **shikari** for the purpose of seeing whether the kill has taken place or not should be put up at a distance so as not to disturb the tiger. A distance from 200 to 300 yards would be enough.

In common language the screen is also called "**Takai-ki-tatti.**"

29. Often **shikaris** put such screens too close to the scene of the kill. The result is that the beast, on hearing the slightest noise, becomes suspicious and disappears from the beat.

30. In their attempt to see the tiger or to make sure of its presence in the beat, after the kill has taken place, some **shikaris**

exceed limits. In their over-anxiety they over-look from the **tatt ĩ** (screen) as well as from other places, and thus disturb the tiger. The result is that the tiger either seeing the **shikari** or hearing the noise of his movements quietly clears off, out of the jungle and brings the **shikari** to shame by the foiling of his arrangement. It is, therefore, best for the **shikari** to see only from the screen set for the purpose and no more. If the tiger is seen at the kill, well and good. If not, the fact that the kill has taken place or the bait has been taken away from the tying place in the **kho** is sufficient indication of the presence of the tiger in the beat. And it will be unnecessary for the **shikari** to make any attempt to see the pug marks at the site of tying.

If it is necessary, for some reason, to go at the site of tying the bait, it is best to do so after 9 A. M. and not before, as an earlier visit may result in coming face to face, with the tiger which is likely to deprive the sportsman of the expected shoot.

There are other ways to ascertain the tiger's presence in the beat such as to search for the pug marks (foot-prints) at the entrance of the beat or on the paths or sides of the beat. But this must be done at a late hour in the morning, say, after 9 A.M. It can be seen from the direction of the foot-prints whether the tiger is in the **kho** or has left it.

Some cunning tigers while passing in or out of the beat avoid leaving traces of their footmarks by walking along rocky and hard ground. In these cases it is impossible to ascertain whether the tiger is in or gone out of the beat. In such cases a search for the foot-prints should be made at places at a distance from the beat.

Whether the tiger is on the kill or not, can be judged by the vultures, crows, kites, etc., which do not fall upon the carcass of the bait if the tiger is still there but keep, for the time being, hovering round the spot or perching on the branches of the neighbouring trees.

The presence of the tiger in the beat may also be gathered from the noise of other wild animals, such as apes, Sanbhar, etc., in whose calls the dreadful presence of the tiger effects a peculiar change.

31. Some tigers kill the bait regularly even daily, but immediately after having killed and eaten it, leave the bait for some unknown place where it becomes impossible to trace them. In such cases the baiting should be postponed till the arrival of the sportsman in the camp, when it should be revived, shooting taking place immediately on receipt of news of the kill.

32. As tigers are very fond of pigs, the latter may be used as baits, where the tiger is averse from killing a buffalo.

33. When it is desired to shoot on **baoli** either by tying goat or buffalo, the time for such shooting should be ascertained beforehand.

The bait should be taken down to the tying place just before the time fixed for the shoot and the person who takes down the bait to tie should call out while going and coming back—**che madari, che madari**.

The bait should be left tied for an hour or so and no more.

A bleating goat is preferable to a silent one.

It is advisable that when a bait of goat is decided upon, goats from 2 to 4 should be taken together to the tying place and leaving the one tied behind, the others should be brought back. Similarly the time of bringing back the tied goat, it is best to take down 2 or 3 goats to the site of tying with which to bring back the one tied.

34. The **shikari** should ascertain from the sportsman the time he intends to remain at the **mala** or **machan** so that he should proceed to bring back the bait after the fixed time. A better arrangement would be to fix upon a signal, *e. g.*, whistle to indicate to the **shikari** when he is required to go down to bring back the bait.

The intending sportsmen should proceed to take their seats on the **malas** or **machans**, as the case may be, in the company of the **shikari** when he is taking the bait for tying and should also return along with him when after untying the bait he is bringing it back. If the paths leading to the **malas** and the site of the kill lie apart, the sportsmen should arrange to reach the **mala** at the time

when the **shikari** is tying the bait; similarly, they should leave the **mala** when the **shikari**, after having removed the bait, is taking it back.

35. The following is the method of making arrangements for shooting a tiger on the bait :—

- (1) Ascertain whether the tiger is in the jungle.
- (2) Ascertain the place where he lives.
- (3) Find out the paths frequented by him and also whether there is water in the neighbourhood or not.

After that the **mala** or **machan** should be built or put up at a suitable distance from the lying place of the tiger. If necessary, clearing of the jungle should be effected on the site chosen for tying the bait.

When all this has been done, the baiting should be commenced by tying out a buffalo daily till the first kill has taken place. Thereafter the bait should be given on alternate days. (In this system, the buffalo, in the beginning, is required to be kept tied on the site of the kill for the whole night.)

When the tiger gets accustomed to killing the bait regularly during night the time for tying the bait should be changed to 4 P. M. and the bait removed daily before darkness sets in. This change will induce the tiger to come out in search of his expected victim during daytime and ultimately lead him to discover that he can have the bait daily from four in the afternoon till sunset. When he gets accustomed to this, the bait should be tied on alternate days and the intending sportsmen informed that the **shikar** is ready.

In this system goats may be used as baits from the very beginning or after one or two buffaloes have been used.



## CHAPTER V.

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### Stops and Flankers.

1. Strong and healthy men should generally be selected for stops. Dumb, deaf, blind, short-sighted and people of old age, who are not fit for this duty, should never be employed: nor bad characters who are supposed to be story-tellers or **badmashes**; and the **shikari** is responsible for this.

2. The stops should reach their posts after 9 A. M. or after such time as the tiger has left the kill and gone in the **kho**. An early posting of the stops is likely to alarm the tiger, as he may be roaming in the beat or round about the jungle and see the stops or hear them approach,—and thus he may clear out of the jungle.

3. Places for stops should be selected first when making other arrangements, and they should be shown the stops beforehand also, so that on the day of shoot they would be able to get to their places independently, that is, without a guide or any other aid.

4. Care should be taken that the places for the stops are not fixed so close to one another as to frighten the tiger away by their presence. It must be remembered that stops have to sit for hours; thus they are apt to make some sort of noise ( cough or sneeze, etc. ). That is why it is recommended that they should be kept away at a reasonable distance.

5. If there are **khos** or likely places, where the tiger can stop, in the neighbourhood of the beat where arrangements are made for the shoot, places for the stops should be selected beforehand in these places: so that on the day of the shoot, if the tiger happens to leave the beat immediately after the kill or to escape from the beat either before it or just after it, or on being wounded, and to go to one of these places, the **paiyas**, who are posted to report his arrival at such places, should do so immediately on his arrival, or even on seeing him at a certain distance (*vide* Chapter II, para 3, sub-para 3).

6. Stops should also be placed behind the **machans** or **malas** at reasonable distances and at likely places on trees or hill-sides, from where the tiger can be seen, so that he may be kept in view passing this way or that, before the beat or after he had been fired at. But no noise should be made by them.

7. It is necessary to find out beforehand, the likely places for the tiger to get out of the beat ( **charao** ). At such places which command the path ( **charao** ), stops should be told off in sufficient numbers to prevent the tiger escaping that way.

8. The distance at which the stops may be stationed from one another very much depends upon the situation and the nature of the ground, but the following arrangement may be accepted as a general principle :—

Starting from the **mala** or **machan**, the distance between the first five stops should be 10 yards each ; between each of the next five, 20 yards ; between each of the 3rd batch of five stops, 40 yards, and between each of the fourth batch of same number, 80 yards.

NOTE.—It is not necessary that the rule as to distance should be invariably followed as a matter of course. Specification of distance has only been made to serve as an approximate indication or graded distinction which should be observed in marking the position of the stops.

9. Flankers who are within a range of up to 70 yards from the **machans** or **mala**, should remain absolutely silent if they see the tiger moving towards them. If such be the case, it is their duty to make a slight indication of their presence by giving a low cough, so that the monster may return. Care should be taken not to make such noise as would frighten him and prevent him from going towards the **mala**.

10. Stops Nos. 6 to 9, that is to say, those posted at a distance of 90 to 150 yards on either sides of the **mala** or **machan** will commence tapping branches gently. The noise of tapping branches should not be so loud as to alarm the animal.

11. Stops Nos. 10 and 11, namely, those posted at a distance of 170 to 210 yards of the **mala** or **machan** on either sides, will also tap, but louder than Nos. 6 to 9.

12. Stops Nos. 12 to 14, namely, those at a distance of 250 to 330 yards from the **mala** or **machan** will tap loudly and will also keep up a continuous conversation among themselves.

13. Stops Nos. 15 to 17, that is to say, those at a distance of 370 to 530 yards from the **mala** or **machan** will keep up continuous shouting.

NOTE.—The tapping talking and shouting, etc., mentioned in paragraphs 10 to 14, should begin as soon as the beat commences but not before. But it should be remembered by the Flankers that if they happen to see the tiger moving towards them with an idea to get out of the beat, before the beat, it will be their duty to give such mild indication by tapping of branches or a gentle cough (**khansna**, **khakarnah**), as to make the king of the jungle aware of their presence—thus dispelling the idea of his clearing out of the beat.

14. Stops Nos. 18 to 20, namely, those up to a distance of 770 yards from the **mala** or **machan** will keep up continuous and loud shouting.

15. Stops that are told off to be nearest the **mala** or **machan** should be placed at short distances from one another, but as they get farther away gradually, the distance between one stop and the other should be increased in proportion to each stop's distance from the **mala** or **machan**.

16. 40 men with good sight and hearing should be selected from among those collected for beating, to act as stops. Out of these selected men, 20 should form the Right Wing, the remainder, the Left.

17. The men selected as stops, should also be capable of tracking the tiger (**khonj khand lagana jannewale**).

18. It is useless to put a regular chain of stops all round the beat, as it may lead to failure of sport. It depends on the jungle as to what number of stops are required. At some places, it may be necessary to have only 20 people, while in others even a smaller number. As

an instance, I cite here the case of **Mitlauni Kho**, where not more than 2 **paiyas** are necessary, that is, one on the south side of the beat just opposite the **mala** right away on the bank (**karara**), the other on the north side of the beat, just on the top on the pathway (**charao**).

19. It is the duty of the **shikari**, to acquaint the men selected for the duty of stops, with the following:—

- (1) That they should proceed to their posts with every care and caution, so that there should be no noise of any sort; and while sitting there they should be absolutely quiet.
- (2) Coughing, sneezing, talking, playing with the branches or stones, is strictly prohibited.
- (3) If they see the royal beast quietly moving, endeavouring to leave the beat for some other place, it will be their duty to inform the **shikari** without the slightest hesitation or fear.
- (4) If any one is sent to enquire from the stop, no conversation should take place except by means of signals—even if the person sent to enquire, endeavours to talk, it will be the duty of the stop to stop him talking.

20. The places chosen for the stops should be shown to them either when the tiger is not in the beat or on the day when the bait is not going to be tied. This must be done at least a few days before the shoot takes place. The stops should also be shown paths or ways leading to their places.

21. It will be the duty of the flankers of either side to warn one another by signals when the tiger is moving in their direction.

22. A pre-arrangement of signals is recommended for purposes of establishing quiet means of communication, but no such arrangement should involve the raising of hands or the waving of cloth so high that the tiger might get frightened on sight of such unusual phenomena, and becoming unmanageable break headlong through the stops—a mishap calculated to upset the whole plan of operations.

At **Dabur Kho**, I have experienced that on account of some villagers talking loudly to the stops behind the **mala**, the coming of tigers towards it was prevented. Three cleared out of the beat, but fortunately two stayed behind in the other jungle, while the father of the family got away to a far off **kho**. It was a pure accident that the remaining two were bagged.

23. The stops should also be on the alert for the calls of other animals and birds, which enable the whereabouts of the tiger to be known in the beat.

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From left to right standing—1. Captain Deas, 2. Major Wigram, 3. Col. Havlock Charles, 4. Major Harry Watson, 5. H. R. H. The Prince of Wales, 6. Sir Arthur Bigge, 7. Major J. Filose, 8. Mr. H. V. Cobb. Sitting—1. Major Grimston, 2. H. H. Maharaja Scindia, 3. Sir Stewart Beatson (1905).



## CHAPTER VI.

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### Hanka or the Beat.

1. The beaters should all be strong and healthy young men. Deaf, dumb, blind, old or weak persons should not be employed.

2. The fewer the number of beaters the better, but it very much depends upon the condition of the beat. For instance, where outlets are many (**katao** and **charao**) a large number of beaters will be required.

3. The beaters should be given all the necessary directions beforehand through their heads, so that no mistake be committed in the course of the beat.

4. The beating should be commenced when it has been ascertained without the shadow of a doubt that the sportsman has taken his seat at the **mala** or **machan** or it should begin at a pre-appointed time. The absence of any such arrangement may result in a mishap, in that the beat may be started before the sportsman has found his way to his post.

5. The **hanka** should begin at 12 o'clock in the day. Some sportsmen are of opinion that it should be done in the morning or in the afternoon for the reason that the tiger is by habit, at those hours on his four feet, and therefore if driven will not be annoyed. The advantage of a midday beat as here recommended is that on account of the heat of the day he will not go far away from the beat, whether hit or missed by the gun; and sufficient time will also be available to trace him.

6. Before the party for the shoot arrives at the beat, the **shikari** should divide the beaters in 3 parties, *viz.*, Right flank party, Centre party, and the Left flank party. Each party should be put in



charge of a man, selected either from among the beaters or from the men who are with the **shikari** to help him in making the shooting arrangements.

The flankers should be particularly warned not to make any noise or throw stones while going along the flanks towards the **mala** or **machan**.

They should also be told to keep away some distance from the **mala** as the chances are that they being ahead, the tiger may see them and refuse to go any further towards the **mala** or **machan**.

7. It will be the duty of the officer in charge of the beat to put up watchmen from place to place at suitable distances on the trees behind the line of beaters. The object of this is to locate the tiger in the beat at once if he breaks through it. These men should not make any noise but inform, by signal, the tiger's whereabouts.

NOTE.—(i) For this purpose persons should be told off before the commencement of the beat.

8. The beaters should halt as soon as they hear the report of a rifle from the **mala** or **machan**, but should continue making noise till they receive instructions from the **mala** or **machan**.

9. With a view to establishing communication between the **mala** or **machan** and the officer in charge of the beaters, a man should be told off. This man should post himself at such a place from where he can communicate with both, *i. e.*, (officer in charge of the beat and the **mala** or **machan**).

This man should be warned to hide himself so that the tiger cannot see him.

10. Instructions would be signalled by the sportsman by means of flags for which a code is suggested as follows :—

- (1) The showing once of a red flag means that the line of beaters should not advance but halt at once.
- (2) If a red flag is shown twice it means that the tiger is wounded and the line of beaters should advance cautiously.

- (3) Showing of a green flag will mean a signal for the line of beaters to continue the advance.

11. When it comes to the knowledge of the officer incharge of the beat, either at the beginning or in the course of the beat that the tiger has slipped away from the beat he should at once halt the line ordering every one to sit quietly at their respective places till the matter is reported to the **mala** or **machan** and instructions received from there, for the next move.

12. It is advisable, if possible, to keep 10 or 12 buffaloes or goats behind the line of beaters but not too far, in order that when the tiger is wounded they should be put forward followed either by beaters, elephant or those who wish to finish the tiger. This method is recommended to prevent accident.

13. The best method for arranging a beat (**hanka**) is as follows :—

- (i) Excluding stops there should be as a general rule, not more than 100 men as beaters (see Sec. 2 of Chapter VI).
- (ii) These men should be formed into one company divided into 4 sections.
- (iii) No. 1 and 2 section to be of 20 men each, while No. 3 and 4 of 30 each.  
Section 1 and 2 should act as flankers while 3 and 4 should be beaters proper.
- (iv) For each section, there must be a man in charge, selected from these 100, who should be called Section Leader, and all the 4 sections forming the company should be placed under the charge of a chief officer.
- (v) 4 or 5 men apart from 100 should be distributed along the whole line at reasonable intervals and distance, with instructions to follow the line and to see that none of the beaters remain behind or fall out of the rank.
- (vi) The four sections in line should be kept quietly seated in double rank, no man being allowed to break rank without permission.

- (vii) When the four sections of the company have been thus assembled, the **shikari** should address them and if they belong to the labouring class, promise them double wages in the event of the tiger being brought successfully before the gun and severe punishment for slackness and disobedience.
- (viii) The **shikari** should give the company the order " Into file, right turn, quick-march. " On this, the section-leaders will at once turn their double ranks into file and make the men proceed one behind the other.
- (ix) Before giving the above order, the **shikari** should take into consideration the time that would be taken by the sportsman to reach the gun and by the beaters and the elephants to arrive at their respective posts. The march should be so timed that when the sportsman has taken his seat on the **mala**, the flankers and elephants should arrive at their posts ten minutes after and the beaters, 15 minutes after.
- (x) The line of beaters should extend on both flanks to the required width so that no likely places where tiger could stay, should escape the range of beaters.
- (xi) As a general rule the interval between the beaters should be not more than 20 yards. Thus with 60 men a line would extend to 1,200 yards but it is desirable as experience has taught, that no man should be left alone, as an annoyed tiger is more likely to go for one man than for a group.
  - (a) The interval between the men should be so fixed that they could see each other.
  - (b) There should always be at least 2 men together.
  - (c) Though the interval is suggested to be 20 yards, it must be noted that this will depend on the thickness of the jungle and the nature of the ground.

(*xii*) Taken all round, the least number of men required for a successful shoot will be as follows:—

10 men for stops.

100 men for flankers and beaters.

5 men to take care of the beaters, preventing them from falling out from the line of ranks.

4 to 5 men for the purpose of locating the tiger if it breaks through the beat.

10 men for being posted in the other jungle as stops.

10 men for any other unforeseen requirement.

14. Stops should also be put up at places commanding the passes and paths (**katao** or **charao**) by which the tiger might slip away. If sufficient number of men is not available for this work, as a substitute may be used a length of rope hung at intervals with strips of white cloth or paper, inasmuch as the fluttering of the cloth and the sound of the paper when shaken by wind will serve to turn back the tiger.

NOTE. 1.—To prevent a tiger from going away from the beat it is enough to give a low cough, throw stones or to make such noise as may lead the tiger to apprehend that some danger lies in that direction. Loud shouting is considered unnecessary.

NOTE 2.—When the number of stops and the places at which they are to be posted, as suggested in this paragraph, have been decided upon, the stops should be put up in a line and one of them seated ahead of that line under some cover. When the latter should see the tiger coming up towards himself he should try to turn him back by giving a low-cough and if the tiger still continues to advance in his direction, he should signal to the men behind him to come up. These men should be concealed at some distance in the rear of the stop ahead and only approach him when summoned. The stop posted ahead should also be directed to time his signalling in such a manner that the men behind him should come up to him before the tiger reaches the top. If the

signalling is not so timed and the men consequently do not come up the tiger might get through.

15. The line from which the beat is to start should be marked out and full information regarding the details of the beat should be given beforehand to the officer-in-charge of the beaters, so that it may not be necessary for the **shikari** to issue instructions every now and then, in the course of the beat.

16. There are two methods of beating :—

- (1) The Silent beat, that is to say, the method of beating in which the beaters do not make any noise beyond that occasioned by their tread or the throwing of stones.
- (2) The Noisy method in which great noise is made by the beaters and guns are discharged or fireworks used or both.

It will depend upon local circumstances whether the one method shall be adopted or the other, but whichever of the two methods is fixed upon, an intimation of that should be given beforehand to all concerned.

17. The Noisy method should be adopted where the beat contains very thick jungle and number of obstacles or ravines and hollows but if the beat is not so then the **hanka** should be a silent one.

18. It is the duty of the **shikari** to acquaint beforehand the officer-in-charge of the beat or the leaders of it (whether villagers or men from any disciplined unit) with the geography of the **kho** in every detail, as well as to point out the likely places for the tiger to get out of the beat and places where stops will be posted.

NOTE.—The great advantage of this is that everyone will know his place and what he is expected to do on the day of the shoot and thus its success will be ensured.

19. The beaters in their advance should proceed slowly, examining closely everything in front of them such as thick bushes, rocks and the ground under the trees, watersheds and every cover possible of which the tiger can take an advantage. It is not necessary to advance quickly or at a running pace. The slower the advance, the more effective the beat.

20. It has been often experienced that that portion of the line of beaters which has to go over open ground advances more quickly than that which has to advance through dense jungle or difficult places, such advance ultimately resulting in the break of the line. As any gap in the line gives a loophole to the tiger to break back, the beaters should be instructed beforehand to take care that the line does not break or that there are no big intervals.

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## CHAPTER VII.

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### Departmental Directions.

1. Where the beaters have been collected in the evening but the "kill" does not take place next day, the beaters should be paid half day's wages. The beaters should be collected a day before the date fixed for the beat and should not be dismissed until the shoot has taken place. Full day's wages should be paid for the day on which the beat comes off. The beaters should be paid and let go as soon as the shooting is over.

2. The **shikari** should submit to the officer-in-charge of the **shikar** arrangements complete accounts with the necessary vouchers within ten days after the arrangements in question are over.

3. Where the **charpoys** used in constructing **machans** or for removing the dead tiger have been obtained on hire, their hire should be paid at once. Should the **charpoys** get spoiled or broken, their full price should be paid, to cover the cost of new ones.

4. If the **shikari** is taken ill in the course of a **shikar** arrangement, he should at once report the fact of his illness to his officer, so that he might be replaced in time by another **shikari** for continuing the arrangements in question.

5. The Superintendent, Shikar Department, should supervise the work of the **shikari** and the work of the Superintendent should be supervised by the officer-in-charge of the Shikar Department.

6. It has been often seen that when the tiger has broken through or gone out of the jungle, the **shikaris** prove themselves absolutely useless for want of knowledge of their profession. It is highly desirable that they should know what their duties are and should thoroughly acquaint themselves with the instructions laid down in this book. For instance, they always fail to show the next likely place for the tiger to go, that is, places where he is likely to stop for the time being after escaping the beat.



"The tigress was driven out past the tower, in which was the Prince, who wounded her with two barrels at long range. She then lay up in the hill on the left. The beaters tried to drive her again back past the tower, when she broke cover and made down the open ground, close to the spot where the Maharaja Scindia had taken up his position with Sir Pertab Singh and General Beatson (who only had his walking-stick). The Maharaja killed her with his second barrel at twenty yards, stepping aside behind a small tree to do so and avoid her charge.

A TIGER SHOOT NEAR GWALIOR.





7. When the **shikari** is sent to arrange for a shoot, a sum of money should be given to him, by way of advance, for the following purposes :—

- (1) To meet the expenses of the bait.
- (2) To disburse the wages of the beaters, stops, &c.
- (3) To meet expenses relative to effecting clearing of the jungle or for **malas**, ladder, etc.

8. The **shikari** should himself pay to each beater according to the rate settled and if the beaters have been collected through the Tehsil or any other agency, the payment should be made in the presence of the person through whom the beaters have been collected and his signature obtained on the acquittance roll in testimony of the wages having been paid in full in his presence.

9. Sportsmen are advised to make a point of seeing that full payments are made according to prevailing rates for those things which are supplied by the people of the locality in the form of **rasad**, etc.

It has been known that wherever a **shikari** or sportsman has failed to comply with this principle or has rendered harsh and unsympathetic treatment the shooting expedition has been a failure.

The key-note of the success of sport is to make oneself popular in the country. Those who show sympathy and kindness to the people are always blessed and generally people pray hard for a repetition of their visits. If such is not the case such visits are looked upon as an out break of plague, famine, influenza or an epidemic of some sort.

10. The **shikari** is responsible for taking care of the **pucca malas** and it will be the duty of the Superintendent, **shikar** Department, to inspect them when on tour.

11. An immediate report should be submitted by the **shikari** where a **mala** is found to stand in need of repairs and he should see that the necessary repairs are done soon.

12. The baits purchased should be paid for, in full, and receipt obtained in token of full payment from the owner of the bait, counter-signed by the Zamindar.

13. If any of the beaters or stops is wounded by the tiger, the case should at once be reported by the officer-in-charge of the beat to the medical officer, if any, in attendance on the occasion. In the absence of any such officer, the report should be made to one of the sportsmen on the spot.

14. So far as the localities where game is always available as a matter of certainty are concerned, a register should be maintained in which the names of persons of the locality who are employed to act as stops should be entered, so that it may not be necessary to search for such people on every occasion. A further advantage of maintaining such a register is that it will do away with the necessity of imparting instructions every time to the stops who have served before. Only those stops shall have to be instructed who may be requisitioned to replace old ones who are either dead or have gone away.

15. The **shikari** shall be responsible for making sufficient arrangements as regards fodder and water for the buffaloes purchased. If no such arrangements are made, the buffaloes will go lean and thus become useless for the purpose for which they are intended.

16. The officer-in-charge of the Shikar Department should keep an eye on the work of the **shikaris** with a view to finding out whether they are performing their duties according to rules or not. Generally the **shikaris** get their work done by Chamars or other village people while they themselves sit at ease.

17. It is the duty of the **shikari** to acquaint himself with all the ways and paths in the jungle under his charge so that on any occasion he should be in a position to reach a particular spot in the jungle without the help of a guide. It has occurred in some cases that **shikaris** have failed to take the sportsman to the **mala** or **machan** for want of knowledge of the jungle. This is sufficient proof that often the **shikaris** do not perform their work themselves or know anything about the jungle.

18. There is no harm if cattle are allowed to graze in areas reserved for shooting but arrangements should be made to prevent the graziers from denuding the forest of its trees.

19. The permission accorded for grazing (*vide* the preceding paragraph) should be withdrawn and grazing stopped altogether on receipt of orders to make arrangements for a shooting expedition in that area.

20. When the shoot is over the **shikari** should make over to the nearest Zamindar all the constituents of the **machan** such as bedstead, poles, ropes, ladder, seats, gadda, etc., for future use. Also the **shikari** should put in charge of the Zamindar such trees as are used for the purpose of putting up **machans**.

Generally, the tendency of the Zamindars is to make attempts, directly or indirectly, even through the Forest Officer, to have these trees cut down.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### Medical Aid in Shikar.

1. It is advisable to take with oneself a box containing the medicines given below as sometimes one has to be away from civilization :—

( 1 ) Tincture of Iodine	...	...	2 ounces.
( 2 ) Carbolic Acid	...	...	„
( 3 ) Iodoform in dredger	...	...	1 ounce.
( 4 ) Iodoform Gauze	...	...	3 packets.
( 5 ) Boric Wool compressed	...	...	6 bundles
( 6 ) Roller Bandages	...	...	1 dozen.
( 7 ) Triangular Bandages	...	...	„
( 8 ) Safety Pins	...	...	4 dozens.
( 9 ) Housewife Pocket case	...	...	1.
(10) Tincture Opii	...	...	2 ounces.
(11) Measure Glass	...	minim 1 }	in card-board cases.
„ „	...	ounce 1 }	
(12) Spirit Ammonia Aromatic	...	...	
(13) Sulphate of Quinine Tablets, containing 5 grains each	...	...	2 hundred.
(14) Aspirin Tablets, containing 5 grains each.			„
(15) Vegetable Laxative Tablets	...	...	„
(16) Calomel Pills, containing 2 grains each	...	...	„
(17) One Bottle of Fruit Salt	...	...	
(18) Boric Vaseline	...	...	2 ounces.
(19) Bismuth Carbonate Tablets, containing 2 grains each	...	...	2 hundred.
(20) Cholera Tincture	...	...	2 ounces.

(21) Hypodermic Syringe with Tabloids	...	1.
(22) Gum Elastic Catheter, No. 7	...	1.
(23) Sodamint Tabloids	...	5 hundred.
(24) Boric Acid	...	5 ounces.
(25) Potassium Permanganate	...	2 ounces.
(26) Chlorogin to purify water for drinking purposes	...	1 bottle.

The following Indian medicines may also be kept in addition to the above :—

- (1) Gule Banafsha.
- (2) Gao Zaban.
- (3) Unnab.
- (4) Mulehti (Liquorice).
- (5) Ama-haldi.
- (6) Sirka (Vinegar).
- (7) Phitkari (Alum).

2. A person getting wounded should be given 10 drops of Tincture of Opium in half an ounce of water. This will serve to give the patient some relief from pain and will also reduce the shock.

3. A wounded person getting unconscious should be treated in the following manner :—

- (1) He should be taken to the nearest shady place ;
- (2) His collar, waistband, etc., should be removed ;
- (3) The crowd of men collecting round him should be dispersed as overcrowding will prevent fresh air from reaching the patient ;
- (4) Cold water should be sprinkled over his head and lastly
- (5) 30 drops of Spirit Ammonia Aromatic should be administered to him in half an ounce of water.

4. Tincture of Iodine is a very useful thing for external application on the wounded parts. The wounds may also be swabbed with the tincture. This will tend to kill all pus-generating germs

and to destroy the effect of poison. It will also dispense with the necessity of having the wounds washed, etc.

5. A little Iodoform should then be dusted over the wounds and pieces of Iodoform Gauze inserted into them. Thereafter, they should be dressed with Boric wool and properly bandaged.

6. When a wound is bleeding copiously, enough gauze should be pressed into it and the bandage made tight. If the bleeding does not cease even then, the part of the body above the wound should be bound tightly, so as to stop the flow of blood from the higher parts downwards. For instance, in the case of a wound in the hand the part of the arm above the elbow should be bound tightly in order to check the blood from passing to the lower part.

The bandage should be secured with a safety-pin, so that it may not get loosened.

7. Red ochre, clay, cowdung, etc., should never be applied to wounds, for they contain Lockjaw germs in them. By the application of such matter, frightful diseases spring up from which the patient can not recover.

8. It has not been tested personally by the writer but the following method of treatment is recommended by some people for neutralizing the effect of poison :—

There is a certain kind of fish known in Hindustani by the name of **chilua**. This fish and some rice should be boiled in water and applied to wounds in the form of a poultice. The poultice, when applied, should be luke-warm and changed after every 30 minutes, until it changes colour from blue to white. It is stated that the original white colour of the poultice is turned into blue through the effect of poison existing in the wound, so that when all poison has been gradually extracted the poultice does not get tinged with blue but retains its original white. When this stage is reached, the poulticing may be stopped and resort may be had to such medicines as tend to fill up the wound, for instance, Iodoform and Boric Acid.

9. The following table will show in what conditions and quantity the medicines, etc., enumerated in Paragraph 1 of this Chapter may be used :—

No.	Name of Medicine, &c.	Uses.	DOSE		REMARKS.
			From	To	
1	Tincture of Iodine...	For external use on the wounded parts.			
2	Carbolic Acid ..	Do.			
3	Iodoform in dredger.	To be dusted over wounds.			
4	Iodoform Gauze ...	For insertion into wounds.			
5	Boric wool, compressed.	For dressing the wounds.			
6	Roller Bandages ...	For Bandages.			
7	Triangular Bandages.	Do.			
8	Safety pins ..	Do.			
9	Housewife Pocket case.	Do.			
10	Tincture Opii ...	To give relief from pain.	5 Drops.	20 Drops.	In half an ounce of water.
11	Measure Glasses, minims and ounce.	For measuring medicines.			
12	Spirit Ammonia Aromatic.	For removing unconsciousness and weakness.	10 Drops.	40 Drops.	In half an ounce of water.
13	Sulphate of Quinine Tablets containing five grains each.	For fever.	1	4	
14	Aspirin Tablets containing five grains each.	For fever, headache, pain in the body.	1	4	
15	Vegetable Laxative Tablets.	For removing costiveness.	1	3	



No.	Name of Medicine, &c.	Uses.	DOSE		REMARKS.
			From	To	
16	Calomel Tablets containing two grains each.	For removing costiveness.	1	2	
17	A bottle of fruit salt	...	1 Table Spoon-ful.	2 Table Spoon-fuls.	With one tumblerful of water.
18	Boric Vaseline ...	For external application.	...	...	
19	Carbonate of Bismuth Tablets containing two grains each.	For preventing Diarrhoea.	2	5	
20	Cholera Tincture ...	For preventing Diarrhoea, Cholera, etc.	10 M	20 M	With half an ounce of water.
21	Hypodermic Syringe with Tabloids.	...	...	...	For use with the aid of professional men only.
22	Gum Elastic Catheter No. 7.	For passing out urine.	...	...	
23	Sodamint Tabloids..	For removing stomach pain, indigestion, etc., etc.	2	5	
24	Boric Acid ...	For washing wounds.	...	...	
25	Potassium Permanganate.	For washing wounds and purifying well water.	...	...	
26	Chlorogin ...	For disinfecting water used for drinking.	..	...	4 Drops in a tumblerful of water.

## CHAPTER IX.

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### Miscellaneous Directions.

1. The pug marks of a tiger require a close study on the part of the **shikari**. Sometimes **Sahariyas** (a wild tribe living in the jungles) attempt to play tricks by making the paw of a tiger on the ground with their hands and killing the buffalo with a knife in such a manner during the night, that the **shikari** is deceived next morning in believing that the bait has been killed by the tiger and the tiger is either gone out or come in. Therefore, they should be very careful when making an inspection of these things.

2. In order to cause no inconvenience to the sportsmen, it is best for the **shikari** to mark down the way leading to the **mala** or **machau** from the place where he has decided for them to leave their horses or elephant and proceed to the **mala** or **machan** on foot. When this is not done it leads to confusion, *i. e.*, the sportsmen may take some other way which may cause mischief of all sorts and spoil the game.

3. Where telephones are put up or signalling stations established, it is the duty of the **shikari** to inform the operator or signaller to what place should he send or go if a message is received for him, *i. e.*, as to where he will be found or the men will be waiting to take the message on. At this place, the **shikari** should leave a man for the purpose of taking messages to him.

4. The **shikari** should report beforehand if he thinks that night time will suit for the shoot.

5. If the **shikari** comes to know that the royal beast drinks water at a particular spot regularly and a certain hour of the day or night, or kills bait at a certain time also regularly he should report this at once. If he gets instructions in reply to it that arrangements

should be made to shoot the tiger on water or on bait, then he should make a careful selection of a place which should be within range as stated in Chapter III and put up **tatti** or **mala** without causing any alarm to the tiger.

6. Often villagers collect together and proceed to a place either behind the **mala** or **machan** or on the sides of a valley to see the show. This should be strictly prohibited as they make a good deal of noise which spoils the whole shoot.

NOTE.—The directions given in this book relate to arrangements for tiger shoot—are meant for Royal sport and not for a private sportsman. However, he can benefit himself by the instructions laid down. For a private sportsman, it is essential to follow a few of these instructions such as:—

- (1) To ascertain, where tigers could be found.
- (2) To inspect the jungle.
- (3) Select site for a **mala**, etc., to shoot from.
- (4) Decide where to tie the bait and the best method of shooting, whether by beating the jungle or on **Baoli** or **Gara**.
- (5) Arrangement of beat.

Care should be taken that the jungle is not thinned out so much that the tiger would never think of visiting the place.

7. Of the two diagrams of tiger beats given at the end of this book No. 1 is a type of beat for plain country, where there are no ravines, hills and rocks excepting thick jungle or **roonds** (grass **ruk**h). While No. 2 is indicative of a beat in a valley or hilly tract such as the well known tiger beats in Gwalior—Singapur, Telia Bharka, **kair kho**, etc.

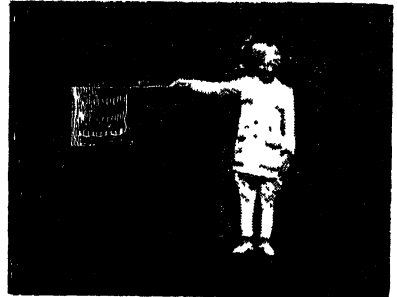
8. The following signals are fixed for purposes of communicating such messages only which concern **shikar**.

The stops should be provided with blue flags. One whistle should always be blown to draw attention before a signal is given.

(1) When the tiger is seen moving in the **kho**, the flag should be raised as shown in the picture.



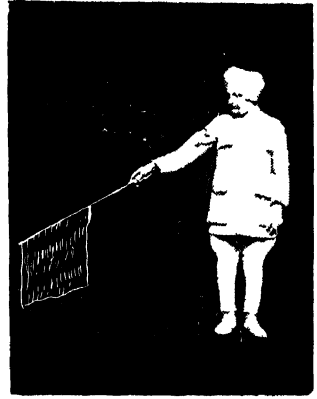
(2) When the tiger is seen going out of the beat, the flag should be put up as shown in the picture.



(3) In order to ascertain from the stop the direction in which the tiger has gone from the beat the enquiring person should wave the flag in front in the same manner as one would enquire by hand from a distance.



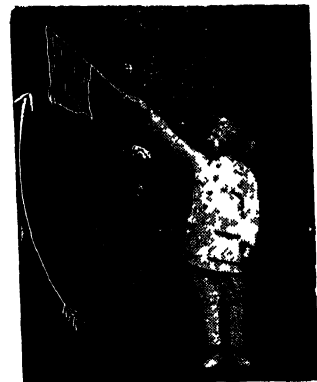
The person replying should indicate the whereabouts of the tiger by lowering his flag in the direction of the tiger.



(4) When a tiger is seen going in a certain direction in the beat, the direction in which he is going should be indicated by lowering the arm, with the flag in that direction.



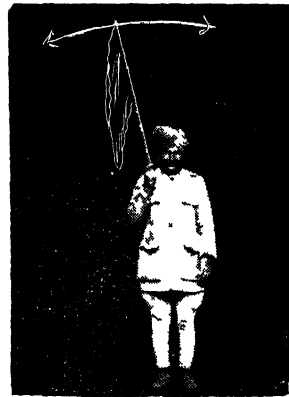
(5) When the tiger is seen ascending in front, the flag should be moved upwards pointing out that direction as shown in the picture.



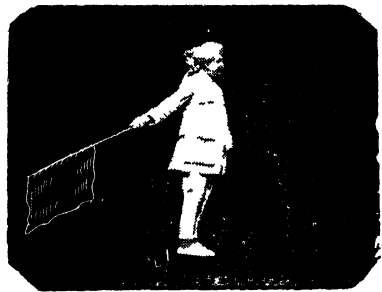
(6) When the tiger is seen going back in the direction of the line of beaters, two whistles should be given and the flag should be moved forward from the back as shown in the picture.



(7) When the tiger turns back wounded, in the direction of the beaters and takes refuge in a cover, the fact should be indicated by three whistles and the place pointed out by the flag.



(8) When the tiger turns back wounded in the direction of the beaters, the fact should be indicated by several whistles and by waving the flag thrice in the direction he is going from back to forward but the flag-holder should face that direction otherwise the signal would not be understood.



- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| (9)  | Signal for beaters to advance.             | One G of a bugle.                         |
| (10) | Signal for the beaters to halt ...         | Two G's of a bugle.                       |
| (11) | Signal for stopping ...                    | Three G's of a bugle.                     |
| (12) | Signal for increasing the noise ...        | Four G's of a bugle.                      |
| (13) | Signal for firing guns and using fireworks | Commence fire, signal of the bugle.       |
| (14) | Signal to stop firing and fireworks.       | Cease fire, signal of the bugle.          |
| (15) | Get the elephant ...                       | After sounding one G, sound "walk march." |



# SKELTON FORM OF THE SHIKARI'S REPORT.

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## Details of work.

## Details of compliance on the part of the Shikari.

1. Whether the jungle has been cleared as per directions laid down in paragraph 3, clause 1, Chapter II ?

2. Whether blocks have been made as per directions contained in paragraph 3, clause 1, sub-clause (b), Chapter II ?

3. Whether trees have been selected for the putting up of **machans** as per directions contained in paragraph 3, clause 1, sub-clause (d), Chapter II ?

4. Whether the **shikari**, sitting on the **mala**, has inspected the surrounding scene with a view to marking out ways by which the tiger may approach the gun and whether such ways have been rendered sufficiently open as per directions contained in paragraph 3, clause 1, sub-clause (e), Chapter II ?

5. Whether the caves (**Andh**) in the beat have been searched for and closed as per directions contained in paragraph 3, clause 2, Chapter II ?



6. Whether there are any other places round about the beat where a tiger can go and live or take shelter ? (*vide* paragraph 3, clause (3), Chapter II).

7. Whether arrangements have been made for the supply of water for the tiger's drink, in the absence of a natural spring or stream of water? (*vide* paragraph 3, clause 4, Chapter II).

8. Whether a place for the living of tiger or to enable him to stop in the beat has been prepared (if necessary) ? (*vide* direction contained in paragraph 3, clause 5, Chapter II.)

9. Whether any other game is available in the jungle and whether a report on the subject has been submitted according to the directions contained in paragraph 4, Chapter II ?

10. Whether in accordance with the directions contained in paragraph 7, Chapter II, a report has been submitted as to the number of the **malas** put up, what number of guns can be provided on them, and also on the sides of the beat (Karara) ?

11. Whether there are any suitable places for an elephant to stop on the **Chadhao** with the gun?

12. Whether the **mahavat** has been acquainted of the way leading to the spot where he is desired to take position? (*vide* paragraph 8, Chapter II).

13. What places have been ascertained where pug marks could be seen? (*vide* paragraph 10, Chapter II.)

14. Where and how many artificial places are made for tracking the tiger? (*vide* paragraph 10, Chapter II.)

15. Whether the directions contained in Chapter III have been complied with in respect of putting up **malas**, **machans** and ladder?

16. Whether the jungle behind the **mala** or **machan** has been attended to (*vide* paragraph 15, Chapter III)?

17. Whether the selection of stops and flankers has been made in accordance with the directions contained in paragraph 1, Chapter V?

18. Whether the spots selected for the stops have been made known to them as per directions contained in paragraph 3, Chapter V?

19. Whether in accordance with the directions contained in paragraph 19, Chapter V, complete instructions have been given to the stops ?

20. Whether the selection of beaters has been made in accordance with the directions given in paragraph 3, Chapter VI ?

21. Whether in accordance with the directions contained in paragraph 3, Chapter VI, complete instructions have been given to the beaters ?

22. Whether in compliance with the directions given in paragraph 15, Chapter VI, the officer-in-charge of the beats has been informed of the lines from and up to which the beat will be undertaken ?

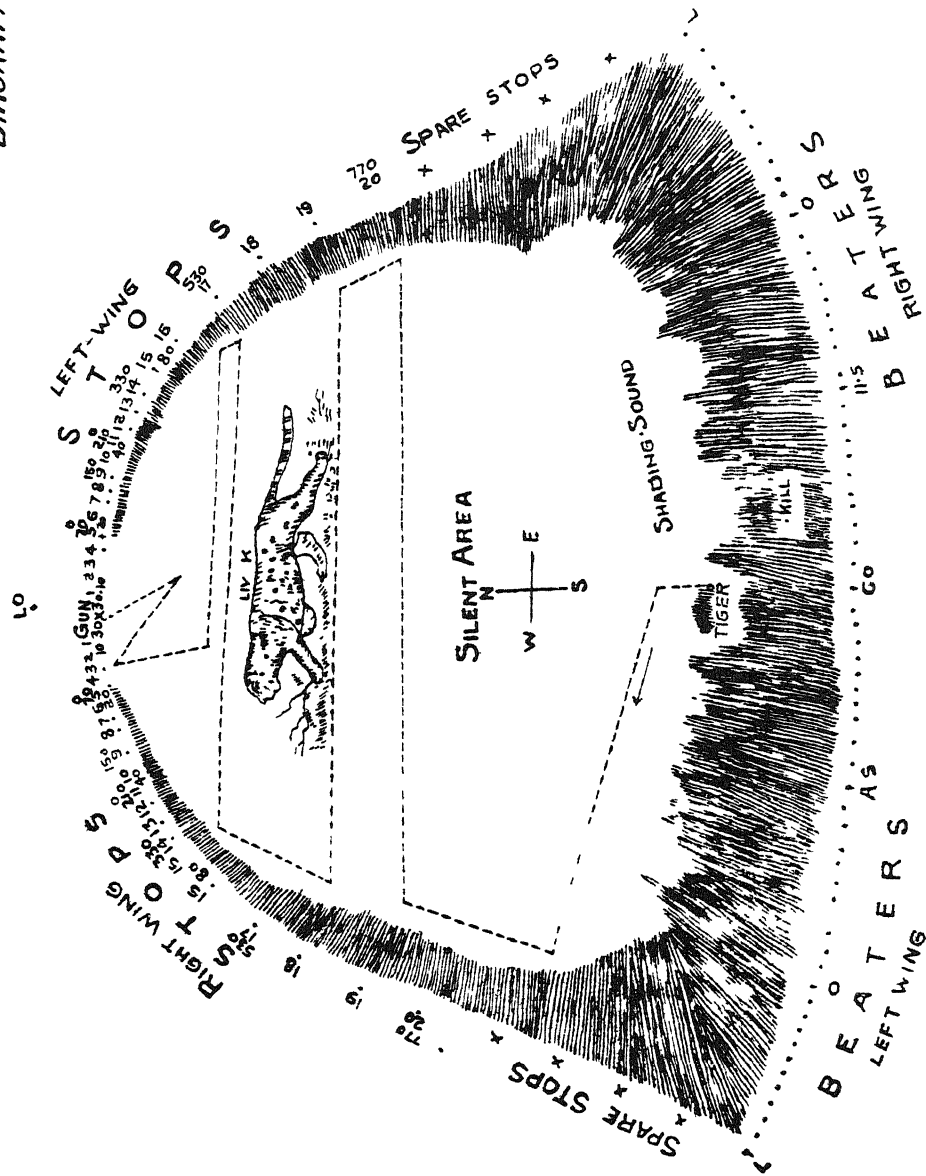
23. Whether the beaters have been instructed as to the position of the '**kho**' as per directions contained in paragraph 18, Chapter VI ?

24. Whether the **shikari** has satisfied himself that the appointed signals have been learnt by all concerned ?

25. Endorsement by the Superintendent, **shikarkhana** Department.

26. Remarks by the Officer, **shikarkhana** Department.

Diagram No. 1

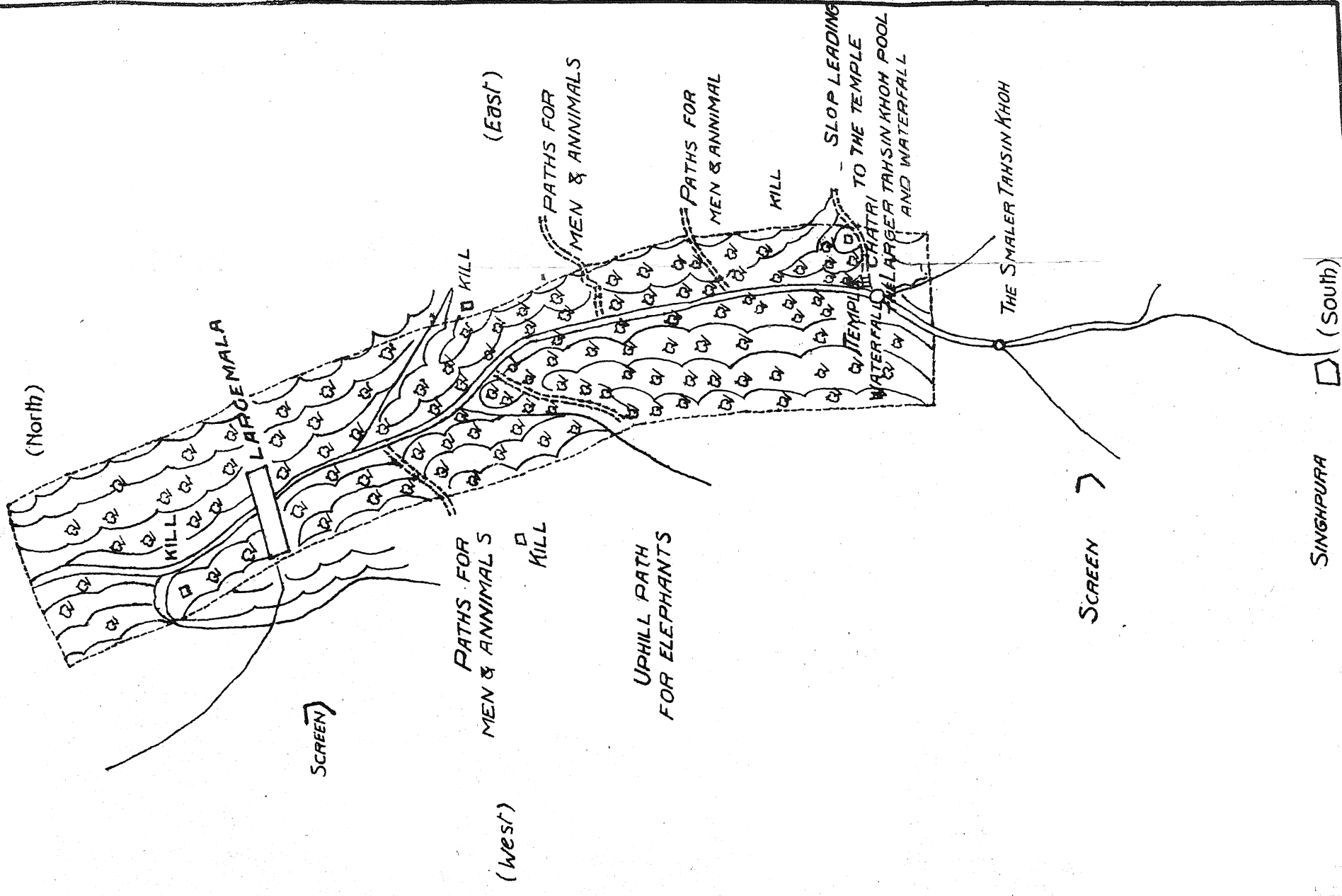




# THE SINGHPURA

## TIGER BEAT

Scale 4 inches = 1 mile





## Explanatory Note to Diagram II.

The limits of the **kho** are indicated by the black dotted lines. The **kho** is just like a box in appearance, being closed on all sides except the northern, for in the south, a high perpendicular cliff closes up the valley, a little below the point where the waterfall is marked in the diagram and the sides on the east and the west are formed of perpendicular slopes running parallel to the north. The **kho** has thus only one entrance on the north. The diagram also shows the sites of the kill and of the inspection screens. Sixty men will be sufficient to act as beaters at this **kho** and 40 as stops, placing twenty of them on the uphill paths on each side, of the **kho**. One stop has also to be posted at the border of the blocks in the **kho** for the purpose of marking the flight of the tiger from one block to another.

The **mala** at this **kho** lies in the centre. The **kho** has therefore been divided into two main blocks, one to the north of the **mala** and the other to the south, the **mala** constituting the dividing line. The beat from the northern side towards the **mala** should be "silent," in order that the tiger might not get wind of it, should he be present in the opposite block.





PLAN No 3

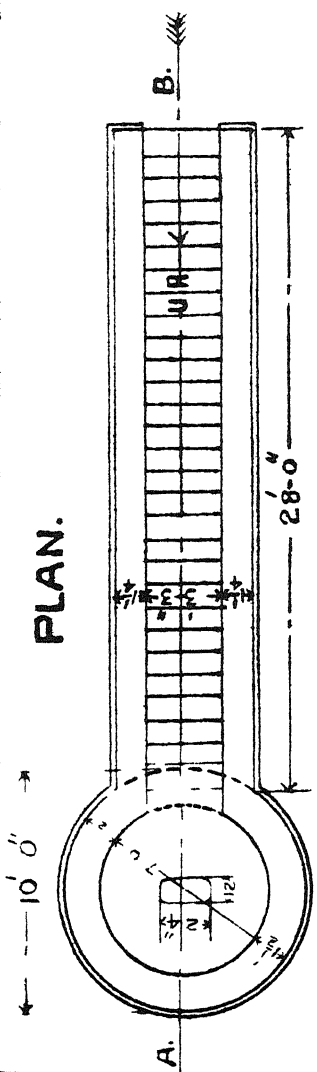
PLAN SECTION  
AND

ELEVATION  
C.F.

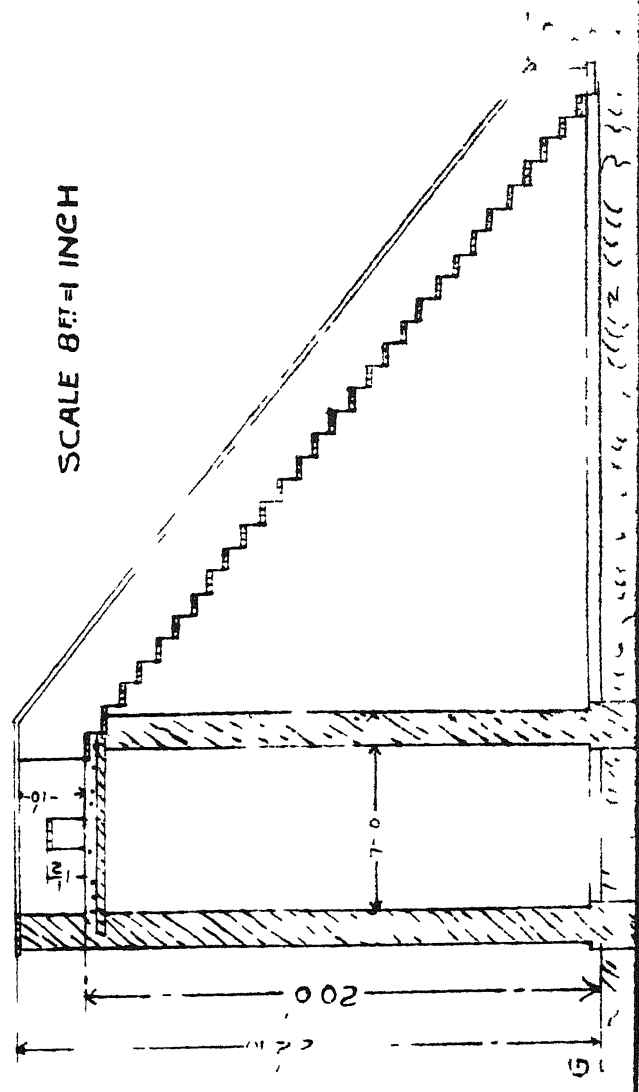
MALA

AT  
DABER KHOH.

PLAN.



SECTION ON A.B.



SCALE 8 FT = 1 INCH

FRONT ELEVATION

